



CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE



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Thursday, December 28, 2000

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Shelter contract on hold

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners voted to extend the current contract between the county and the Animal Shelter of Crawford County (ASCC) until January 17. The ASCC was already operating on an extension due to expire December 31, 2000 when the commissioners voted at their regular meeting last Wednesday, December 20.

The extension comes on the heels of a proposal to operate the shelter presented by current and longtime director Dixie Lobsinger and a Letter of Intent delivered by the ASCC announcing their desire to continue managing the shelter under a new proposal to be presented at a later date. Lobsinger, who created the ASCC nearly nine years ago, now desires to break away from the group and possibly create another non-profit group to raise money for operating expenses and a variety of services to the animals of Crawford County.

County Prosecutor John Huss advised the County Board to
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See "ANIMAL SHELTER..."

TRAIL OPENS



Photo by Caleb Casey

Representatives of Crawford County, the Sheriff's Department, the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce, the City of Grayling, and other area groups helped the AuSable Valley Snowmobile Association celebrate the opening of the association's new snowmobile trail and parking lot at Michigan Avenue near the County Building. The trail, part of an effort to create a snowmobile trail through town, gives riders a place to park downtown and easy access to food, gasoline, and local shops.

Road Board faced with Animal Shelter decision

► County decides not to lease the property for the Animal Shelter

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

After expressing an interest in leasing the Crawford County Animal Shelter property from the Road Commission, the Crawford County Board of Commissioners recently decided not to pursue the lease agreement, leaving the future of the shelter lease up to the three road commissioners.

(The Road Commission owns the the Animal Shelter building and the property on which it sits.)

At the county level, Shelter Director Dixie Lobsinger and the Animal Shelter Board have each put forth different plans with regard to the Animal Shelter's future. If the two parties continue to be at odds over control of the shelter, the road commissioners may have a tough choice ahead of them.

The Road Commission has allowed the shelter to operate on its property without a lease for over two years, after the previous agreement expired. About a month ago, the county asked the Road Commission to sign a two-year

lease (for \$1 per year) for the animal shelter property. The Road Commission agreed to the terms, but the county commissioners have apparently decided not to sign the agreement.

The county notified the Road Commission officially of its change of plans last week in a letter from County Controller Paul Compo to Road Commission Managing Director Don Babcock, explaining that a Prosecuting Attorney's opinion was a big factor in the decision.

"An opinion was asked of the Prosecuting Attorney as to the legal obligation and jurisdiction that the (County) Board has in regard to the road commission lease and the operating contract with the Animal Shelter of Crawford County," the letter states. "The Prosecutor replied that the Crawford County had no legal obligation or jurisdiction regarding this matter, once the contract with the shelter expires on December 31st of this year, unless the Board creates one in for the future."

"The Crawford County Board of Commissioners no longer wishes to hold the lease for the property currently being used by the Animal Shelter of Crawford County. That said, the Road Commission of

Continued on Page 2A

See "ROAD BOARD..."

Lovells Township family left homeless by fire

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

For the second time in three weeks and just five days before Christmas, a Crawford County family has been left without a home due to an accidental fire. The Barry Armstrong family of Lovells Township are the latest victims.

Lovells Township Fire Chief Gary Davis said the fire was reported at 3:50 a.m. on December 20 after Armstrong spent about a half an hour trying to extinguish the fire himself. Lovells fire fighters were assisted by personnel and a tanker from Frederic Township. "Everyone did a great job working together and getting the fire under control," the chief remarked.

The family got out of the mobile home safely after Armstrong's son, nine-year old Jacob woke up to the smell of smoke and ran for his father. There were no smoke detectors reported to be in the home. Jacob's quick action aided his parents and siblings (Jesse Armstrong, age 8; Merrisa Aikens, age 5 and Justin Aikens, age 3) in fleeing the fire without injury.

Davis said an investigation revealed the fire started near the water heater and quickly spread throughout the home and to a pole

barn, completely destroying both buildings and their contents.

The family has temporary shelter, but is in need of a more permanent place to call home as well as clothing, household items and furniture. Davis said the Lovells community has really rallied around the Armstrong family. "Shortly after the fire, people were stopping by the house and offering help to the family," he said.

The American Red Cross provided emergency assistance of clothing, food and three days lodging. Sue Shoemaker of the Gaylord Red Cross office said the emergency aid is made possible by generous public donations. No government monies are received by the Red Cross.

Donations may be made to the American Red Cross and directed to the Armstrong family, or to the general Disaster Assistance fund. "We have seen double the fires over this time last year due to the extremely cold weather and heavy snowfall," Shoemaker said. "The weather can really put an extra strain on older home heating systems."

To donate funds, send check or money order to: American Red Cross, 1349 S. Otsego Avenue,
Continued on Page 3A

See "LOVELLS..."

'O mitten tree...'



Photo courtesy of Grayling Elementary School

Grayling Elementary School (GES) students, Colin Hamlin and Ashley Feldhauser, make donations to the school's "O Mitten Tree, O Mitten Tree" project, sponsored by the GES Student Council. Students brought mittens, hats, and gloves as well as coats and snowpants they have outgrown as donations to kids without. Any pieces of winter wear not used by students will be donated to the Crawford County Community Christian Help Center.

County Board re-appoints three to Planning Commission

by Cheryl Ruley
Staff Writer

After advertising for four open seats on the Crawford County Planning Commission and receiving only three applications, the County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to re-appoint three current members to those seats.

Wallace Kidwell, Ed Holtcamp, and Theodore Gomez were all re-appointed to the Planning Commission. During discussion prior to the vote, the commissioners discussed the hard work performed by the incumbents for the good of the county and their pleasure at making the re-appointments.

The County will continue to advertise for the remaining open seat on the Planning Commission. Applications may be picked up at the County Clerk's office.

For more information, call 344-3200.

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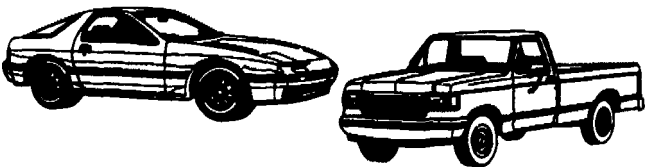
Crawford County Avalanche

Grayling, Michigan 49735-1878
Vol 122, No 52, 2 PAGES, 20¢ PER COPY
PO Box 490, Grayling, MI 49735-1878
www.townshipofgrayling.com

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Police ask public for help to solve hit-and-run mystery



Photo by Danielle McGillis

Five vehicles and a large business sign were damaged last Thursday when an unidentified vehicle collided into them at Milltown Motors on the I-75 Business Loop north of Grayling. The driver left the scene of the accident. Anyone with information regarding the incident should contact the Crawford County Sheriff Department.

The Crawford County Sheriff's Office, assisted by the Grayling Police Department, is currently investigating a hit-and-run property damage accident that occurred in the early morning hours of Thursday, December 21.

Damaged were five motor vehicles and a large sign at Milltown Motors and Truk Stuff, located on

the I-75 Business Loop just north of the Grayling city limits.

According to Sheriff David Lovely, damage to the cars and trucks on the lot, as well as to the sign, was caused by a vehicle that apparently sideswiped a utility pole, vaulted a snow bank, then slammed into the vehicles and sign.

Lovely said the suspect vehicle probably sustained considerable damage to the front end and right side.

Anyone with any information that may help identify the driver or his/her vehicle in this incident, is asked to call the Crawford County Sheriff's Office at (517) 348-4616.

Local crash a reminder to buckle up

Houghton Lake Post Michigan State Police (MSP) Troopers are investigating a two-vehicle personal injury accident that occurred Saturday, December 23 in Roscommon Township. The accident occurred near the intersection of Old US-27 and M-55.

According to the MSP, the accident happened when the driver of a vehicle travelling westbound on M-

55 lost control on the snowy road and crossed over into the eastbound lanes and was struck broadside by another vehicle.

One of the drivers, Mildred Frisbie, 85, of Houghton Lake, was transported to Grayling Mercy Hospital by Houghton Lake ambulance. She was later transferred to Munson Medical Center in Traverse City where she was listed in critical

condition.

The other driver, Florence Turney, 55, of Shelby Township, was treated at the scene and released.

Turney was wearing her seat belt at the time of the accident. The critically injured driver, Frisbie, was not wearing a seat belt.

The accident remains under investigation.

Road Board faced with Shelter decision

Continued from Page 1A

Crawford County may lease the property that the animal shelter occupies to any party that they desire," Compo stated. "The

Crawford County Board of Commissioners recognizes and supports the need for an animal shelter within the County and will evaluate working agreements with whoever

holds the lease."

Lobsinger presented the Road Commission Board with copies of her plan for the shelter, which basically consists of Lobsinger "running the shelter like I have been," she said.

Board Chairman Tom Perry said the board would look over the plan and consult legal counsel to see what the Road Commission's options are.

"We need to sit down and look at this," Perry said. "Obviously there's more than one choice here. We need to find out what is legal and what isn't."

Board members assured Lobsinger the Road Commission has no intentions of forcing the shelter to move out.

"We've been operating without a lease for a couple years now. Don't pack your bags just yet," Commissioner Ken Riehle said.

New Years Eve Smorgasbord

Sunday December 31

5:00 pm - 10:00

Stir-fried Crab Legs, Charbroiled Beef Sirloin carved with aujus, Breaded Shrimp, Cornish Game Hens ala orange, Smoked Pork Chops with Apple Glaze, Raspberry Barbecue Marlin Lions (Blue Marlin), Stuffed Red Skin Potatoes, Honey Glaze Carrots, Broccoli and Cheese Sauce, Cold Seafood Bar with Chilled Oysters, Mussels, Pez-zat Shrimp, Smoked Whitefish, Raw Vegetables and Dip, Fruit and Cheese Tray, Assorted Bread and Rolls, Tossed Salad Greens, variety of toppings, House Dressings.

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A time when strangers were welcomed
with open arms.
A time to sing God's many praises
in hymns and psalms.
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it's good to remember
The gentler days of
past Decembers
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change, it's true...
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for friends like you!

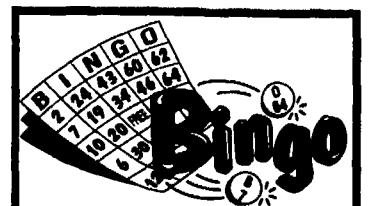


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Friday - 6:30 pm

**Grayling Eagles
Aerie #3465**
Eagles Club, 602 Huron
Grayling

Commissioners ready to serve two more years



Photo by Cheryl Ruley

Ready to serve two more years, Crawford County Board of Commissioners members were sworn in last Wednesday, December 20 by County Clerk/Register of Deeds Sandra Moore. The ceremony took place during the commissioners' regular monthly meeting. From left: Sandra Moore, District 1 Commissioner Harold "Tike" Golnick, District 2 Commissioner Scott Hanson, District 3 Commissioner Shelley Pinkelman, Chairperson and District 4 Commissioner Lynnette Corlew, Vice Chairperson and District 5 Commissioner Elizabeth Wieland, and District 6 Commissioner Terry Beardslee.

Consultants hired for Industrial Park planning

Implementing a strategy of progressive service and planned growth, Grayling Township recently selected Capital Consultants, Inc. to provide professional planning services in the development of the large industrial area directly south of the City of Grayling, along I-75. The economic initiative should assist in attracting industries and creating jobs for area residents.

The state-owned lands include approximately 2,000 acres that have been set aside by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for direct sale to businesses, both industrial and commercial, as they are needed. Parcel sizes will range between two and 640 acres.

The property spans an area from the southern limit of the City of Grayling to Four Mile Road.

Proceeds of property sales will be used by the MDNR to purchase higher-use recreational lands elsewhere.

Grayling Township Supervisor Terry Wright said, "This unique opportunity to develop state-owned land for industrial use will have a significant, positive impact on the region's economy, which has been inhibited by the abundance of state-owned land in Crawford County."

Teaming with Wells/Mansfield, Inc., Capital Consultants will be determining specific land uses for the project area, identifying potential funding resources, designing infrastructure improvements needed for anticipated developments, researching the environmental impacts of the projected growth and developing a marketing plan to promote the area to potential industries.

The estimated cost of the planning investment is \$100,000, half of which is being provided by Grayling Township, and half is the result of a Community Development Planning Grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Wright predicts the sale of land to private developers will result in hundreds of new jobs over several years, helping to jump-start the region's economy and parallel the growth of surrounding communities.

Although Grayling Township is the controlling governmental entity for the project, a community-wide effort has gone into industrial development, led by members of the Industrial Development Committee

(IDC) of the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce. The IDC consists of members representing all the townships, Crawford County, the City of Grayling, the Crawford County Road Commission and major area businesses and industries.

Established in 1966, Capital Consultants has offices in Lansing, Gaylord and Grand Rapids. The firm provides services to government agencies, industries, institutions, architects and the private sector.

Typical projects include study, design and construction engineering services, in the areas of civil, environmental, mechanical, electrical and structural engineering, as well as data/voice networking and web presence services.

City of Grayling explains its winter operations

With winter upon us, we all face the prospect of handling snow removal. The City of Grayling is no exception. The workers deal with the problem in three areas.

After a major snowfall, the City Department of Public Works concentrates first on downtown, clearing that area before the morning traffic begins. First, the snow is moved from the sidewalks to the street. The plows then push the snow to the center of Michigan Avenue and pile it until it can be removed.

When finished, the drivers clear

the major city streets: Michigan, Maple, Lake, Peninsular, and Norway. Next, they plow the residential areas. The Crawford County Road Commission is responsible for the Business Loop, M-72, and North Down River Road.

The city contracts with Camp Lehman to shovel the sidewalks on the main school routes. The crew works for six hours on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The schedule has been revised this year to include: Michigan Avenue from North Down to Chestnut; (Maple to Chestnut has just been added) and

Maple from Michigan to Madsen. Typically, those 15 blocks are all they can finish in a day. During those winter periods when there is no new snow, the crew clears storm sewer drains and fire hydrants of snow and ice.

The city police and fire departments are available 24 hours a day. In the case of an emergency, you can call '911' for assistance from either department. For city police or fire business, phone the office at 348-4601 during working hours.

For help with city sewer and water problems, you can contact the

office at 348-2131. If an emergency occurs when the office is closed, call Crawford County Central Dispatch at 348-4911. There is a DPW worker on call 24 hours a day.

Animal Shelter contract on hold

Continued from Page 1A

extend the current contract until it has received the ASCC's proposal. Huss also advised Lobsinger to use the extension time to make any amendments to the proposal she presented at the December 14 meeting.

Huss advised the County Commissioners that no matter who they decide to contract with, that person or group must fit the description of an independent contractor, leaving the county with no liability

of any kind. "The county must be held harmless," Huss said.

The Prosecutor recommended the contract be extended for one month, but after checking their calendars, the commissioners agreed by a unanimous vote to table the issue only until their regular meeting on January 17.

The morning after the 17-day extension was granted, the County sent a letter via fax to the Road Commission stating the County Board has no longer wishes to hold

the lease on the shelter property, leaving the Road Commission to lease it to whoever they decide. In the letter, the county continues to recognize and support need for an animal shelter within the county and "will evaluate working agreements with whoever holds the lease."

The next meeting of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners will be January 4 at 10 a.m. for the annual Organizational Meeting, where Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be elected by the Board. Committee assignments will also be made.

The County Board will also meet on January 11 for the following committee meetings: Law Enforcement, Personnel and Labor, and Ways and Means. All meetings are open to the public.

Lovells Township family left homeless by fire

Continued from Page 1A

Gaylord, MI 49735. Any questions about donations or about how to become a volunteer may be directed to Shoemaker at 1-800-691-6059.

Anyone wishing to make a donation of any kind, may also call Bruce Armstrong at Lovells Hardware, 348-7449 or Fire Chief Gary Davis at (517) 786-7372.

Correction

In an article appearing in the December 21 edition of the Avalanche, entitled "Shelter control may be taken up by the county board," a portion of the Animal Shelter of Crawford County's By-Laws was inadvertently taken out of context. The section was referring to non-compensation of members of the Board of Directors, not the animal shelter director as implied. Nowhere in the original By-Laws is the subject of a paid employee, such as a manager or director, addressed.

We apologize for the error and any confusion it may have caused.

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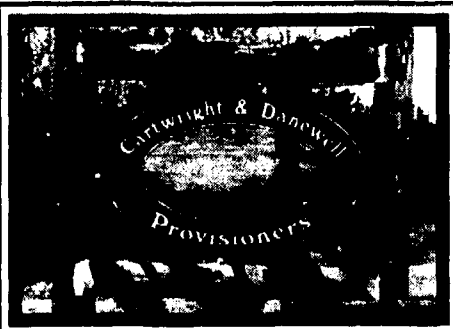


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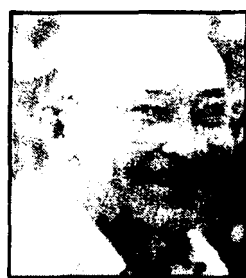
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OPINIONS



ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

Our final word on Florida election -- at least for 2000

BEFORE WE wrap up the old year and bring in a new one, this writer offers answers to a few questions about the Florida election even though nobody has asked.

Was I surprised by how it turned out? I sure was. Let me count the ways.

I figured all along that somehow, sooner or later, in some way, Al Gore and his bank of attorneys would find a way to win it.

Given a few more days, I may have been right.

Did Al Gore really receive more votes in Florida than George W. Bush? I doubt it. But the Gore strategy was aimed specifically at targets that could have turned up enough new Gore votes and thrown out enough Bush votes to have turned the tables.

Counting only highly Democratic areas, and using standards made up on the spot by pro-Gore local counters, may well have done it.

But had the entire state been manually recounted by fair and uniform standards, I think the result would still have been Bush.

Deciding ballots on what a local counter thinks the intention of the voter may have been is blatantly unfair and subject to partisan manipulation, and should not be allowed. What a voter did, and not what a local counter thinks a voter intended to do, is the only correct way to count votes.

Will George W. Bush be a "legitimate" president? Darn right he will be. The electoral college said so, and that's the law of the land.

Will die-hard Gore backers ever believe it? Not a chance.

I WAS SURPRISED that the U.S. Supreme Court involved itself in the Florida election.

Although the election result affected the entire country, the process of the election was a strictly state matter, and in my view should have been solved by the state.

If that view had prevailed, the Florida Supreme Court would have the final word, and the result could have been different,

especially since the decisions were made by seven justices appointed by Democratic governors. In fairness, it is noted the Florida court broke 5-4 for the Gore side in one crucial decision.

I also thought the U.S. Supreme Court, once it got the ball in its court, would be more unified in its judgement, but that probably was only wishful thinking.

Its 5-4 split on the final crucial ruling was disappointing, but I don't think it will have any lasting negative effect on public perception of the legal process. In many cases, public perception of courts and the legal process is not too high anyway.

One other point: It's hypocritical for one side in a 5-4 court decision to accuse the other of making a political judgement when the accusing side, by its own uniformity, is doing the same thing.

I WAS SURPRISED that I wound up in Jesse Jackson's corner in one of his complaints about the Florida election;

From the sidelines, Mr. Jackson was making all sorts of demands and venting all sorts of outrage about how minorities and their votes were treated in the Florida election. Much of it was the usual mush.

But if there is any truth to his claims that minority voters -- or anyone else, for that matter -- were intimidated either by legal or illegal means to keep them from voting, then Mr. Jackson is heralding legitimate and serious charges and rightfully calling for redress.

Late-hour switching of polling places, roadblocks and detours, losing or destroying legitimate registration certificates, and any other method used to prevent or discourage minorities or any other legitimate voters from casting their ballots should be thoroughly investigated and corrected at once.

Some of these actions may be legal, but they are just not right and should not be permitted. We should encourage people to vote, regardless of any perception of how they might vote.

So keep after them, Mr. Jackson. I'm with you on this one.

NOW THAT THESE thoughts are out of the way, that's the last you'll here from The Almanack about the momentous election of 2000, and its Florida climax... at least for this year.

One of my new year's resolution is to stay away from unnecessary comment about the Florida election all through 2001, too.

Of course, it all depends on what the meaning of "is" is (see how I learned something from all those lawyers in Florida). Besides, new year's resolutions are made to be broken.

For 2001, a happy and prosperous new year to all from this newspaper and The Almanack.

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

The American family: Every night at a dinner table near you

Like the Cleavers, the Bradys and the Huxtables, today's families tend to spend a lot of time together, especially around the dinner table. According to the latest findings from *The Shell Poll*, 50 percent of Americans say they eat dinner at home with their family almost every night while an additional 18 percent of families eat together several times a week.

Not only are families breaking bread together, they are spending time together and appear to be happy doing so. Eighty-six percent of those polled are satisfied with their relationships with family members. Sixty-three percent are "totally satisfied." In this day and age with both parents working and kids glued to their PCs, a surprising one-fifth of respondents (19%) think that family ties are closer today than they were in their parents' day, compared to only seven percent who felt this way in 1971.

"Relationships appear to be thriving in this Internet Age," said Susan Borchers, vice president of Corporate Affairs for Shell Oil Company. "This survey certainly indicates that Americans value and enjoy spending time with family and friends, with the holiday season approaching, it's encouraging to see a well-connected society."

Family relationships are just one of the topics covered in the seventh edition of *The Shell Poll*, an opinion survey conducted for Shell Oil Company by Peter D. Hart Research Associates. More than 1,000 American adults were polled on a wide range of issues, including the Internet, friends in the workplace, holiday habits and knowing one's neighbors.

A family that plays together, stays together - Family time is not only reserved for the dinner table. Sixty-two percent of Americans say they spend most of their leisure time with their family rather than with

friends. Not surprisingly, those age 35 to 49 -- who are most likely to have children -- are those most likely to spend a majority of their leisure time with family (68%). It is worthy to note that 58 percent of those age 18-34 also spend most of their leisure time with family versus friends (32%).

Hello mother? Hello father? It's also nice to see that Americans stay in touch with their parents once they are out of the nest. A staggering 80 percent say they call home to speak to their mothers at least once a week while 66 percent talk to their fathers as often. Moms are particularly important to single men who are three times as likely as married men to call their mother every day (42% to 17%).

Friends and family@together.com - The Internet is a standard tool in the workplace, but it's now playing a role in other arenas as well. Sixty percent of online Americans feel the Internet has helped bring people closer together and 55 percent say it has actually strengthened their relationships with family and friends.

Internet use is becoming as common for most Americans as turning on the television or microwave. Sixty-four percent of web users said they use the Internet every day and 30 percent using the Internet every day although not for very long. Though not surfing the web to the same extent as younger Americans, nearly one-quarter of those age 65 and over (22%) use the Internet at home.

There has been much talk that e-mail is the communications medium of choice and *The Shell Poll* further supports this theory. thirty-four percent of Americans exchange e-mail with friends at least "fairly often" and only 17 percent write letters to the same extent. Sixty-nine percent of frequent Internet users rely on e-

mail to stay in touch with friends whereas only 62 percent use the telephone. Of seniors who use the Internet, 79 percent do so at least a few times a week.

You gotta have friends - The Internet and e-mail are making our global village even smaller. Almost as many Americans say they have good friends who live far away as those who say most of their good friends live nearby (42% compared with 46%). Rates are even higher among frequent Internet users. 47% of whom have friends who live far away, compared to 39 percent of non-users who have long-distance friendships.

Fittingly, sixty percent of web users believe the internet has brought people closer together by making it easier for people to interact.

Once friends get together they do a variety of things for fun. Seventy-six percent at least occasionally eat out at a restaurant while 55 percent entertain at home. Fifty-nine percent of respondents go to entertainment or sporting events, and 47 percent attend parties with their friends.

Friends in the next cubicle - The majority of working Americans (53%) claim to have at least a few friends from their current workplace and over three-quarters (76%) are satisfied with relationships with their co-workers. At a time when employees are being wooed by signing bonuses, free PCs and large expense accounts, the opportunity to socialize with co-workers is perhaps the greatest perk and the greatest source of satisfaction. According to the poll, the office workplace is the single most significant source of working American's friendships. Nearly one-quarter of employed respondents (24%) say they have made a large number of friends from their current workplace and 78 percent say they have made at least one or two friends at their current place of work.

It doesn't take long for friendships in the workplace to blossom. When asked, 49 percent of employed respondents said it took them only a few days to make friends with co-workers while 10 percent said it took a week and 20 percent said it took a couple of weeks. Over half of employed Americans polled (53%) said the majority of their friends were from their current place of work, more than any other social area including churches (38%), clubs and organizations (39%) and college (24%).

However, while working respondents said they have friends in the workplace, 55 percent said they spend very little time with them outside of the office.

Leaving a job for greener pastures may be easy, but leaving co-workers is a different story. Sixty-one percent of Americans have maintained friendships from previous workplaces.

Decking the halls - With the holiday season fast approaching, Americans are getting ready to travel, celebrate and shop. Three-quarters spend Thanksgiving, Christmas or Hanukkah with their immediate family and 70 percent say family time is the best thing about the holiday season.

Almost half of employed respondents (49%) say they will be attending a holiday office party this year and a whopping 81 percent of attendees said they would be going because they want to, not because they felt they have to. Those age 50 to 64 were the most enthusiastic party-goers (90%) with the post-collegiate set, age 18 to 34, next in line at the punch bowl (83%).

Feelings of good will are most prominent during the holidays, but feelings of charity appear to be prevalent year-round. The majority of those surveyed (52%) say they have donated time to a charity and an even greater number (73%) say they have donated money. Churches

were the greatest beneficiaries of America's charitable giving (51%) followed by children's causes (41%).

Shop 'til your mouse drops - With shopping in crowded malls being the thing people hate most about the holiday season (52%), the Internet has provided a hassle-free way to avoid waiting in lines and fighting for a store clerk's attention. Nearly one-quarter of Americans (23%) and 47 percent of daily Internet users say they plan to do some of their holiday shopping online.

Neighborhood watch - Two-thirds of those polled (66%) say they are satisfied with their relationships with their neighbors and more than half (56%) say they know their neighbors fairly well. In fact, a majority (54%) would feel "very comfortable" turning to their next-door neighbor for help in an emergency and three-quarters (75%) would feel at least "fairly comfortable."

When chatting with their neighbors, children and family are the topics most talked about (44%) followed by home improvement (20%), local issues (16%), weather (15%) and sports (9%).

Country mouse vs. city mouse - The differences between rural and urban Americans are brought to light in *The Shell Poll*. Seventy-four percent of rural Americans are satisfied with their neighborhood relationships, compared to 59 percent of urbanites; 66 percent of country-dwellers say they know their neighbors well, compared to 53 percent of city-dwellers.

Geography also comes into play when it comes to sociability. The Mid-West appears to be the friendliest area of the country, with 62 percent of respondents saying they know their neighbors well, compared to 60 percent of Southerners, 52 percent of Northeasterners and 49 percent of Westerners.

Retailers group responds to annual store scanner survey

Michigan Retailers Association CEO Larry Meyer issued the following statement November 28 in response to the Michigan Attorney General's "annual holiday scanner accuracy survey."

"Every year the attorney general goes shopping for pricing errors at large retail stores -- and inevitably finds some. At one time or another, most major retailers have made the list. It's time everyone took a look at the real problem.

"These repeated trips focus attention on the symptoms rather than the cause. They place blame on the retailers while ignoring the flawed and technologically outdated system imposed on them by state law.

"Retailers do not intentionally make pricing errors, not if they want to stay in business in today's highly competitive, customer-service-oriented marketplace. And while even one pricing error is too many, blaming retailers exclusively for them is like blaming Florida's poll workers for the problems created by that state's election system.

"These pricing errors are largely the result of human error, not technology. And yet, state law forces retailers to rely heavily on human pricing and ignore modern technology.

"Michigan's retail industry urges the attorney general to work with us to finally bring reform to the system. We need a better system, one that recognizes the need for speed in changing prices and relies more on modern technology and less on error-prone humans placing price stickers on every item in a store.

"Reforms advocated by the retail industry would set tough, state-certified pricing-accuracy standards -- and then give retailers the flexibility to use modern technology to maintain those standards. Moving state law into the electronic age will go a long way toward eliminating pricing errors while saving retailers and their customers money."

The Michigan Retailers Association is the unified voice of retailing in Michigan and the nation's largest state trade association of general merchandise retailers. MRA's more than 5,500 retail business members operate more than 12,000 stores across the state.

CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE
 P.O. Box 400, Grayling, MI 49738-0400 TEL: 349-6411 FAX: 349-6806

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Published by Crawford County Avalanche, Inc., Ann Marie Milliman, president.
 Member of the Michigan Press Association and the National Newspaper Association

USPS 136-860. Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office at Grayling, MI 49738 under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1919. Published each Tuesday at 102 W. Michigan Avenue, Grayling, MI 49738. For changing address, send US Post Office Form 3579 to the Crawford County Avalanche, P.O. Box 400, Grayling, MI 49738.

Subscription Rates: One year permanent subscription in Crawford, Roscommon, Kalkaska, Ogemaw, and Oshtemo counties, \$16.00. Seasonal address changes add \$4.00. One year non-local, outside above counties, \$24.00. Foreign Countries, \$52.00. Senior Citizen discount (60 or older) \$1.00 off any of the above rates. Subscriptions rates are non-refundable.

Check us out on the Internet at www.townnews.com/avalanche/

AVALANCHE DEADLINES

Community Briefs items submitted to *The Avalanche* must be turned in to the office by Monday noon, to appear in that week's issue.

Photographs must be turned in to the office by noon on Friday for consideration in the next issue.

News items and letters should be submitted on 8 1/2-x-11 inch paper, typed, and double-spaced.

Handwritten items must also have ample space between each line; on lined paper use every other line.

Classified ads by the word must be turned in by Tuesday noon and have to be paid for in advance or they will not be published.

Classified display ads must be turned in by Monday noon.

Full page, half page, or color display ads must be turned in by Thursday at 5 p.m.

The deadline for all display ads smaller than a half page is Friday at 5 p.m.

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Avalanche*.

Your views are welcome on the Opinion Page. Letters may be typed or handwritten, but please double-space or use every other line and limit to 500 words.

Every letter must be signed and an address and telephone number must be included to be considered for publication. Letters will not be published without the author's name. Telephone numbers are not published.

All letters are subject to editing and will be printed as space allows.

BRIEFS

Chamber offers health care seminar

The Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce is offering a morning seminar, "Taking Control of Your Health Care," on Tuesday, January 9 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Grayling Holiday Inn. Topics to be covered include: cost cutting options, sole proprietors vs larger companies, prescription coverage (generic vs brand name and drug discount cards), changes in Blue Cross coverage and other insurance options. The seminar is sponsored by local businesses. Cost is \$7.50 and includes a buffet breakfast. For more information call the Chamber at 348-2921.

Michelson hosts all-you-can-eat lunch

Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church will host an all-you-can-eat soup, sandwich, salad and dessert luncheon on Thursday, January 4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Take outs available and everyone is welcome.

Secretary of State closed for New Year's

The Grayling branch office of the Michigan Secretary of State will be closed for the New Year's holiday Friday, December 29 and Monday, January 1, 2001.

Training offered on Electronic Air Emissions reporting

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will offer a series of February workshops on the Michigan Air Emissions Reporting System (MAERS).

The DEQ will introduce the new 2.1 version of MAERS software, designed to let users submit air emissions reports electronically.

The workshops are February 6 in Marquette, February 8 in Gaylord, February 13 in Grand Rapids, February 15 in Warren, February 20 in Novi, February 22 in Ann Arbor and February 27 in Okemos.

They explain Michigan's clean air requirements and demonstrate how to complete and submit air emission reports electronically. The workshops will cover:

- How to handle MAERS software

basics, including installation, navigation, and how to download a facility database.

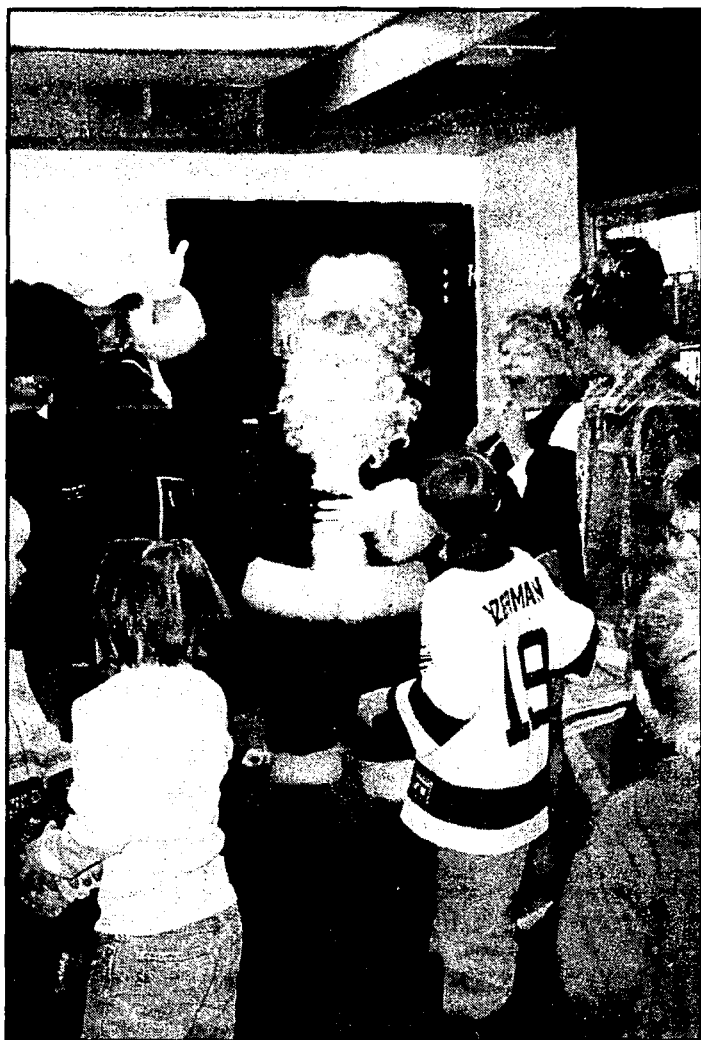
- Changes that occurred between the 2.0 and 2.1 versions of the software.

- Avoiding common mistakes encountered when submitting a MAERS report.

- Where to go for additional help.
- Participants should bring a portable computer preloaded with the new MAERS software and their facility's database. Individual assistance will be available from a DEQ Air Quality Division specialist.

For registration information, contact the DEQ's Environmental Assistance Center at 1-800-662-9278 or contact the DEQ web site at: www.deq.state.mi.us.

SANTA VISITS LIBRARY



Over 60 children sang to Santa, listened to stories, sat on his lap, or just said "hi" at "Stories with Santa" at the Crawford County Library last week.

Quit smoking for a healthy start in 2001

Now is the time of year when people take stock of their lives and vow to make changes for the better. For smokers, a resolution to quit is a resolution to live not only a healthier life but to live a longer life.

When a smoker makes a serious commitment to quit, the healing process begins. Within 20 minutes of smoking that last cigarette, the body begins a series of changes that continue for years.

According to the American Lung Association of Michigan, within minutes of quitting, the body begins to return blood pressure, pulse and body temperature to a normal level. Within 24 hours, the chance for a heart attack decreases. Lung capacity increases within 72 hours. Research shows that the body begins to heal itself rather quickly. By 10 years, pre-cancerous cells are

replaced with healthy cells.

Quitting an addiction is not easy but the health benefits far outweigh the dangers of the addiction. Smoking costs the U.S. \$97.2 billion in health care expenditures and lost productivity annually. This includes \$50 billion in direct health care costs for people with smoking-related diseases.

The American Lung Association is there to help. The Association has information and experts available on smoking cessation. There are also smoking prevention and cessation programs available for teens as well as adults.

For information, call the American Lung Association of Michigan at (800) LUNG-USA or visit online at: www.alam.org.

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WANTED OLD PHOTOS!

We accept old photos for our "Historically Speaking" portion in our paper. Please submit your photos with information at *The Avalanche* office.

102 Michigan Ave., Grayling.

Crawford Habitat for Humanity looking for more families

Crawford County Habitat for Humanity is accepting applications for Partner Families for 2001 and 2002. Habitat will make houses available to these families on a no interest loan. The families must qualify by meeting criteria that includes:

- Income level based on family size
- Live in Crawford County for one year
- Show ability to make monthly mortgage payments
- Commit to 250 hours of sweat equity for each adult in the household

Habitat for Humanity International has built over 90,000 homes worldwide. They have provided 450,000 people with safe, decent, affordable housing. The Crawford County affiliate has built six houses. The group's goal is to provide six more homes in the county over the next two years.

Volunteers and donations are always gratefully accepted. For more information or to receive an application, contact Grace Feldhauser at 348-2382 or call the Habitat office at 344-0804.

Blood drive scheduled

There will be a Crawford County Red Cross Blood Drive at Grayling High School on Wednesday, January 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. and at Frederic Elementary on Thursday, January 4 from 12 noon to 5:45 p.m.

This drive is sponsored by the students for the community and students. All donors are welcome, but must be at least 17 years of age and weigh 110 pounds. Nurses will be available to answer any questions.

At the November Blood Drive, 84 donors participated. Gallon pins

were given to the following: Marshall M. Spencer and Tammy L. Blair; 2 Gallon: Brock A. Prater and Ronald J. Rakoczy Sr.; 3 Gallon: Carlotta Lasano and Stanley L. Cartwright; 4 Gallon: Robert I. Fitzpatrick Jr.; 5 Gallon: Mary C. Brown; 10 Gallon: Marilyn Fick; 14 Gallon: Robert Bovee.

First time donors were: William E. Fairbotham, Raymond H. Folkmier, Joseph C. Hankinson, Audra R. Horton, Teena S. Kehr, and Tara L. Paladine.

Deadline draws near for ACT test

College-bound high school students can take the ACT Assessment on February 10, 2001, the next nationwide test date. The registration postmark deadline is January 5. Late registration postmark is January 19 (an additional fee is required for late registration).

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all colleges and universities in the nation. ACT scores are accepted at all Ivy League colleges. The test fee is \$23 (\$26 in Florida). Colleges use ACT scores, along with a student's high school GPA (grade point average) and other information to help determine admissions and the appropriate course placement for new students. In 1999, nearly 1.8 million ACT tests were taken.

For more information, including registration forms and test locations, contact your high school counselor or register online on ACT's website -- www.act.org. The website also has helpful information, sample tests and the opportunity to order test preparation materials.

DNR employees raise \$600 for Help Center

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Grayling Field Office, held its third annual charity auction on December 14.

Staff members donated many beautiful handmade items. A silent

auction was held with office staff enjoying some friendly competition. Bidders voted on the charity of their choice. The Christian Help Center was the recipient of over \$600 raised by the group.

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Interviews conducted for appointments to academies

Washington, D.C. — Fourteen mid-Michigan students vying for a prestigious appointment to one of the U.S. service academies have been interviewed by the 4th Congressional District nominating board, Rep. Dave Camp (R-Midland) announced recently.

A five-member panel of local citizens reviewed the students' academic and community records and conducted personal interviews on December 7 at Central Michigan Hospital in Mount Pleasant.

Appointments to the U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Military Academy (West Point) and the U.S. Naval Academy are made by the president, vice president and members of Congress.

"This year's group of students are the most impressive I've seen in the 10 years I have served in the House," Camp said. "I'd like to thank the dozens of students who applied, and the board members who have volunteered their time to



Photo courtesy of Rep. Dave Camp

The 2000 U.S. Service Academy Nomination Board meets in Mount Pleasant to interview 14 academy applicant finalists. From left to right are board members Art Thayer of Grayling, Kathy Crumbaugh of Breckenridge, Wes Skinner of Mount Pleasant, Corky Gaylor of Roscommon, and Linda Mazwell of Beaverton.

choose the very best and brightest who will serve their country."

Members of the 2000 U.S. Service

Academy Nomination Advisory Board are Art Thayer of Grayling, Kathy Crumbaugh of Breckenridge,

Wes Skinner of Mt. Pleasant, Corky Gaylor of Roscommon, and Linda Mazwell of Beaverton.

Miller outlines uniform voting system plan

Secretary of State Candice S. Miller last week outlined her plans to proceed toward a statewide uniform voting system and her proposals for increasing voter participation.

"How can the greatest democracy the world has ever known continue to conduct its elections with outdated voting equipment?" Miller asked. "The time for fundamental election reform is now."

Michigan's chief election officer proposed a special blue ribbon committee to evaluate existing voting systems, explore the feasibility of a new system, identify costs for establishing a statewide system and make a recommendation to the Michigan Legislature on how the state should proceed.

Under her proposal, Secretary Miller would chair the committee, which will include bipartisan representation of the Michigan House and Senate.

Secretary Miller outlined her proposal while showcasing the voting equipment currently approved for use in Michigan.

Of the 5,376 precincts in the state, 3,006 precincts used optical scanning voting equipment in the presidential election. Another 1,443 precincts used punch card systems, 693 precincts used various types of lever voting machines, 137 precincts used paper ballots and 97 precincts used direct recording electronic (DRE) systems.

"Each one of these systems has its strengths and weaknesses," Secretary Miller explained. "There is no perfect voting system and, for that reason, we may want to consider developing specifications and requesting proposals from vendors."

"We need to identify the very best system and consider the cost as an investment in our democratic process," Secretary Miller added.

Secretary Miller explained that

the punch card system is relatively inexpensive, flexible and portable. However, it does not alert voters to errors without a precinct tabulator, and recounts can be time-consuming as well as difficult. The mechanical lever system, while durable, is bulky and expensive to store. It prevents voters from making errors, but creates no paper trail. Because of ballot layout, voters often quit voting or "fall-off" before reaching the end of the ballot.

Secretary Miller explained that paper ballots have easy to follow voting procedures and are relatively inexpensive. However, she noted they are labor intensive and time-consuming to count. Paper ballots also have no way of alerting voters to errors.

Secretary Miller also showcased the direct recording electronic (DRE) and optical scan systems. She explained that the DRE voting systems are the most expensive used

in Michigan. They are highly accurate, eliminate the need for ballot printing and enable recounts to be performed instantaneously. These systems need a companion absentee voting system.

Optical scan systems, which are the most widely used in Michigan, alert voters to error. However, the printing standards make production of ballots costly. Further, the counting equipment is sensitive, ballots are cumbersome to store and recounts are time consuming.

Secretary Miller said that in addition to studying voting systems, the blue ribbon panel should also make a recommendation of increasing voter participation, such as early voting or weekend voting.

"The advantages of a statewide uniform voting system to both the voters and the election officials are obvious," Secretary Miller concluded. "I believe we can make changes to our system that are long overdue, in a bipartisan way, that will strengthen and preserve the democratic process in Michigan."

"What we need to do is identify the very best voting system as well as a way to pay for it," Secretary Miller concluded.

Local fire departments to continue children's programs

Fire Chief Douglas S. Pratt of the Frederic Township Volunteer Fire Department, as well as Chief Duane Brooks of the Grayling City Township Fire Department announced that they are continuing a commitment to fire prevention. As part of this commitment, the departments are organizing their annual Fire and Burn Safety Program for the children of Frederic and Grayling.

Over 150 youngsters ages 5 through 12 in Frederic and 770 in Grayling will receive educational fire prevention materials created and geared to each specific age level. This comprehensive program includes fire safety awareness and independent thinking about the everyday fire hazards he or she may

encounter. Various other fire safety booklets, folders, posters, and brochures are made available to encourage the prevention of destructive fires, painful burns, disfiguring injuries and needless death.

Bob Koch, of the National Fire Safety Council, Inc. (NFSC) will be helping local fire fighters in planning and delivering programs to the school children. Bob is the Area Fire Safety Coordinator of the NFSC. The National Fire Safety Council is a federal tax-exempt nonprofit organization under the Internal Revenue Service Code of 501-C-3 and all contributions are tax-deductible.

The Grayling and Frederic Fire Departments are in the process of mailing sponsor request letters

explaining the entire program to the area businesses, industrial and professional leaders, asking for their financial support to help cover the cost of the materials used by the department.

Both Fire Chiefs stress to prospective sponsors that this is the only program of this type that the Grayling and Frederic Fire Departments will be conducting this year. Should any other person solicit for support, especially by phone or in person, and does not have a letter from either Fire Chiefs, please contact the fire departments immediately.

Uniform gun rules sent to governor

Legislation approved on Wednesday by the state House and Senate increases safety for Michigan residents by implementing a standard, statewide gun permit policy.

House Bill 4530, co-sponsored by state Rep. Ken Bradstreet, establishes uniform eligibility requirements for residents applying for gun permits and standard guidelines for local county boards that issue the permits.

"We've been working on this a long time and I'm elated we finally got it done," said Bradstreet, R-Grayling. "It's not a perfect bill, there's things in it I would change if I could, but it's a lot better than what we have right now."

"This measure allows all law-abiding people to have access to concealed weapons permits and

exercise their constitutional rights while strengthening the system to provide uniform standards throughout the state." HB 4530:

- Prohibits people convicted of a felony and certain misdemeanors, and who are mentally ill, from legally carrying a gun;
- Increases the age limit for carrying a gun to 21;
- Requires completion of a gun safety course;
- Prohibits people from having guns in schools, day-care centers, establishments that serve alcohol, large arenas or stadiums, hospitals, casinos, and college and university buildings; and
- Provides \$1 million for distributing trigger safety locks.

The bill now goes to the governor for consideration.

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Gaylord Center Schedule of Classes - Winter Term 2001

NUMBER	TITLE	CREDITS	TIME	DAY
ACC 202	Principles of Accounting II	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	M
ACC 401	Advanced Accounting I	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	M
MTH 136	Fundamentals of College Math	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	M
ACC 331	Taxation II	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	T
CIS 101	Computers & Information Processing	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	T
MGT 400	Leadership Effectiveness	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	T
HIS 202	American History 1820-1900	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	T
COM122	College Writing II	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	W
ACC 400	Auditing	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	W
MKT 301	Principles of Marketing	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	W
MGT 345	Purchasing & Materials Management	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	W
COM 212	Introduction to Speech	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	T
MGT 331	Small Business Management	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	Th
FIN 340	Corporate Finance	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	Th

Classes held at the University Center @ Gaylord & Gaylord High School.

Grayling Site Schedule

COM 122	College Writing II	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	M
MGT 424	Labor & Employment Law	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	T
SOC 214	Social Awareness	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	W

Classes held at Grayling High School.

Cheboygan - Straits Area Center Schedule

MGT 424	Labor & Employment Law	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	T
CIS 101	Computers & Information Processing	4.5	6:00-9:25pm	W


Classes held at Cheboygan High School.

Additional courses available **online**. Call for details.

Gaylord Center
800 Livingston Blvd., Suite 1B-2
Gaylord, MI 49735
517.731.2966

www.davenport.edu

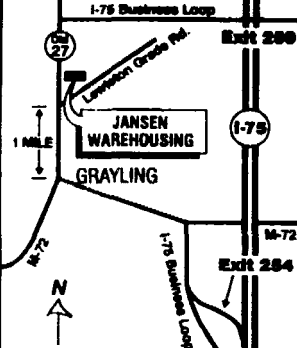
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Little ones learn all about pizza pies



Recently the Frederic Head Start visited B.C. Pizza in Grayling on a field trip. Owner Donald Jarvis spent time showing the children how to make pizza and also let them enjoy a slice.

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Does a child need a Social Security number?

Yes, a child needs a Social Security number for many reasons: to be claimed as a dependent on a tax return; to be shown on a bank account or savings bond; to obtain medical coverage; or to become eligible for government services.

There's no cost and it's simple to get a Social Security number.

The easiest way to apply for a child's number is at the hospital when the child is born. When the baby's birth is registered, the hospital representative should ask about applying for a Social Security number for the baby. If the representative doesn't ask, it's okay to say that you want a Social Security number for your baby.

Whenever an application is made for a Social Security number for a

child under age 18, parents' Social Security numbers must be provided. However, a Social Security number can be assigned to the child without the parents' Social Security numbers if: the parent does not have a Social Security number or the parent's Social Security number is not known.

If the baby's Social Security number is not obtained at birth, when the application is made it will be necessary to fill out an application (with both parents' Social Security numbers); show evidence of the child's age, identity and citizenship; and show evidence of your identity.

The baby's Social Security card is an important document. Keep it in a safe place. If the card is lost, it will be replaced at no cost.

For more information about getting a Social Security card for a child check the Social Security website, www.ssa.gov, or call toll-free 1-800-772-1213 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

RANGE FIRING

Range firing scheduled during December 27 through January 2:

The Range 40 Complex, Air to Ground, located north of County Road 612, east of Guthrie Lake, south of Old State Road F97, and west of County Road F18 (Twin Bridge Road). Bombing and strafe firing conducted.

For further information call 1-800-628-5820.

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Hospital board member honored for 24 years of service

"Paul Lerg has been instrumental to Mercy's evolution into the quality health care institution that it is today. We have seen a lot of change through the last 24 years that he has been active on the Mercy Board of Directors," stated Stephanie Riemer-Matuzak. "We are going to miss him but want to wish him success as he fills a new role, as a member of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Health and Hospital Association and mid-west representative to the American Hospital Association."

According to Lerg, who is also the Assistant Superintendent of Crawford AuSable School District, being on the Mercy Board was very worthwhile. "I have seen the health care system evolve from focusing all attention and resources on inpatient care to where we are now. The focus is not only on inpatient care, but the ability to offer a wide variety of health care services in each of our primary service areas - Grayling, Roscommon, and Houghton Lake/Prudenville. The commitment of Mercy Health Corporation and now Trinity Health, as well as our partnership with Munson Healthcare, has been an integral part of that change. In the past, health care providers did not create relationships and combine resources for the good of the communities served to the extent



Mercy Health Services North Community Health Care System Board for 2000: (seated, from left) Ralph Cerny - President and CEO Munson Medical Center & Hospitals, Nancy Thompson RSM, Kent Rosenau, Rita Epple RSM, Paul Lerg, Don Samardich; (standing, from left) M.R.S. Nair MD, John Rockwood - President Munson Healthcare, Barb Souder, Naomi Holysko RSM, Howard McColley, Sue Kurtz, K. Ramaswamy MD. Unavailable for photo: Stephanie Riemer-Matuzak - CEO Mercy Hospital Grayling, John MacLeod - CEO Mercy Hospital Cadillac.

that we do today."

Lerg cites the most rewarding aspect of his involvement on the Mercy Board is Mercy's continuing commitment to quality patient care and provision of care to those with little or no insurance.

His advice for future board members is to "take advantage of educational opportunities for growth -

learn what trends will face health care in the next decade. These trends can be applied on a local level through the Board of Trustees, as well as through the new Trinity system (owner of Mercy Hospital Grayling and Mercy Hospital Cadillac, as well as 42 other hospitals) and their partner, Munson Healthcare."

Lerg added, "Although I will miss Mercy, I am excited about new opportunities to represent health care, especially rural providers, in my new position with the Michigan Health and Hospital Association. I will be working with legislators especially on the issue of health care policy."

The Grayling Police Department would like to remind citizens about two city ordinances.

1. City Ordinance 69-1, section 6, prohibits parking on the streets between the hours of 3:00 am and 6:00 am. Vehicles found on the streets during this time may be ticketed and/or towed. It is especially important to keep the streets clear in order to facilitate snow plowing during these winter months.

2. City Ordinance 72-3, section 2, prohibits the accumulation of any kind of refuse or associated material upon the right-of-way of city streets. Trash and all related trash cans should be kept out of the right-of-way until the scheduled trash pickup day.

The City of Grayling appreciates the cooperation of its citizens in these matters.

Karl A. Schreiner
Chief of Police

Kids: Enter the Michigan Week 2001 Essay Contest

Secretary of State Candice S. Miller is inviting fourth and fifth grade students to submit essays about their favorite historic place in Michigan for the Michigan Week 2001 Essay Contest sponsored by the Department of State, Michigan Education Association and the Michigan Association of School Boards.

Contestants' essays must be postmarked in February 2001, and the winners will be announced during the Michigan Week 2001, and the winners will be announced during the Michigan Week 2001 Kickoff at the state Capitol in mid-May. Michigan Week will be observed May 19-28.

"Michigan Week is all about celebrating Michigan and everything that has made this state the greatest place in the world to work and live," said Secretary Miller, the chair of Michigan Week 2001. "Michigan's history is rich and varied- each region of the state has its own story to tell. The essay contest is

designed to encourage young people to begin exploring that history and the significance it holds for them."

Judging criteria are designed to correlate with Michigan curriculum standards and are modeled after the Holistic Feature Scoring of Civic Writing for the fifth grade Social Studies Michigan Educational Assessment Program exam. Lansing area school teachers have volunteered to serve as contest judges, and the Michigan Education Association and the Michigan Association of School Boards are providing the prizes.

Six winners and six honorable mentions will be announced at the Michigan Week 2001 Kickoff at the state Capitol in mid-May. Winners will receive a \$100 savings bond and honorable mentions will receive a \$25 savings bond. Both groups will be invited to a special reception at the Capitol during the Michigan Week Kickoff and to the Michigan Week 2001 awards reception and luncheon in Marshall on May 22.

Winning essays will be posted on the Secretary of State web site.

About 2,500 entries were submitted last year, the first time the essay contest was held. Contest organizers expect the number of entries to easily surpass last year's as the February deadline draws near.

Guidelines for the contest are as follows: Any fourth or fifth grade student may submit an essay- only one submission per student. Children of Michigan Department of State employees or essay contest judges are not eligible to enter. Applicants must respond to the following: Secretary of State Candice S. Miller, Michigan's official historian, is interested in hearing from you. Send her your essay about a favorite historic place in your area or in another area of Michigan and explain its historical significance. Your essay needs to contain an introductory paragraph, supporting paragraphs and a concluding paragraph. All entries must be postmarked during the month of

February 2001. Entries submitted prior to or after February will be disqualified. Essays are limited to 500 words. Entries can be handwritten, typed or submitted electronically. Written or typed essays should be sent to the Secretary of State Michigan Week Essay Contest, 430 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48918-1195. Electronic essays should be e-mailed to the Secretary of State at: MIWeekessay@sosmail.state.mi.us.

For complete contest rules, visit the Secretary of State web site at www.sos.state.mi.us/miweek, or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Secretary of State, 430 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI, 48918-1195.

Established in 1954, Michigan Week is a unique grass-roots celebration of the state's rich agricultural, economic, social and cultural heritage. Believed to be the only one of its kind in the country, Michigan Week heralds the state as a great place to work and live and promotes state pride among residents.



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Grant helps AuSable cedar project

The AuSable River System Property Owners Association (ARSPOA) and Huron Pines RC&D, coordinators of the local "Cedars for the AuSable" project, recently recognized Weyerhaeuser for its \$2,000 grant, which was used to purchase seedlings for the cedar project.

Project Chairman Howard N. Johnson and Dan Sikarskie of RC&D presented a certificate of appreciation to Dave Malm, manager of Weyerhaeuser's Grayling Structurwood Plant.

Volunteers from the Grayling Structurwood Plant advisors committee recommended the \$2,000 grant for the cedar project.

The seedlings were planted this fall in the riparian corridor of the upper AuSable River. River property owners also protected the seedlings from the local deer population by enclosing each cedar seedling with protective fencing.

Members of the ARSPOA assembled the northern white-cedar seedlings, pre-cut fencing, wooden stakes, and planting instructions into "planting kits" for the association's annual fall distribution. A total of 4,500 cedar seedlings have been planted by property owners since the project began in 1997.


Because of contributions from local businesses and organizations such as Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation, McLean's Hardware, Anglers of the AuSable, George W. Mason Chapter of Trout Unlimited, AuSable River Watershed Restoration Committee, and Re/Max of Grayling, the planting kits can be made available to river property owners at a reduced price.

For more information about the "Cedars for the AuSable" project, contact chairman Howard N. Johnson at (517) 753-6373 or visit the project's website: www.cedarsfortheausable.com



Photo courtesy of Howard N. Johnson

Dan Sikarskie (left) of RC&D and Howard Johnson (right), Chairman of the "Cedars for the AuSable" project, present Dave Malm (center), manager of Weyerhaeuser's Grayling Structurwood Plant, with a certificate of appreciation in recognition of Weyerhaeuser's \$2,000 grant to the cedar-planting project.



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Vermont researcher to speak at annual Maple Syrup meeting

Michigan State University Extension (MSU-E) and the Michigan Maple Syrup Association (MMSA) will be co-sponsoring a daylong educational program on Saturday, January 20, 2001 for any interested maple syrup producers.

This year's program will feature Dr. Tim Perkins, Director, of the University of Vermont's Proctor Maple Research Center. He will discuss current maple syrup research that is being done at the Proctor Center as well as in other areas of New England.

The program will be held at the Doherty Hotel Conference Center on the US-27 Business Loop in

downtown Clare, and will run from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Registration for the program begins at 8:30 a.m. and costs \$20 per adult and \$10 per child, age 6-13 (under age 5 free).

Registration fees are payable at the door.

This fee includes a buffet lunch, refreshments, program costs and room use.

On the program will be a presentation by attorney Kevin Chapman, Esq., who will discuss limited liability corporations and how this type of business arrangement might benefit maple syrup businesses. Also featured will be an update on

new food law legislation recently enacted in Michigan and its effects on maple producers. In addition there will be several concurrent breakout sessions focusing on maple syrup production and marketing offered in the afternoon.

Of interest at the Year 2001 meeting will be a Beginner's Session for New Commercial Producers as part of the breakout sessions. There will be several maple syrup equipment suppliers on-hand to exhibit their products for those who attend.

For more information, please contact the Crawford County Michigan State University Extension office at 344-3264.

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18

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Game 2 _____		Game 9 _____		Game 16 _____	
Game 3 _____		Game 10 _____		Game 17 _____	
Game 4 _____		Game 11 _____		Game 18 _____	
Game 5 _____		Game 12 _____			
Game 6 _____		Game 13 _____		Tiebreaker 3 game #18 _____	
Game 7 _____		Game 14 _____			
Tiebreaker 1 game #1 _____		Tiebreaker 2 game #9 _____			

Avalanche Football Contest Official Rules
(1) Contestants must list the advertiser in which each game is found. Write your prediction for the games played, advertisers and tiebreakers (total points scored by both teams) on entry form. Entry form without advertisers listed will be invalid. The person with the most correct picks wins all the weekly prizes listed. If the tie breakers can not determine a winner, a drawing will be held to select a single winner. (2) One entry per person a week will be accepted. Crawford County Avalanche employees are not eligible. (3) Completed entry forms must be returned to the Avalanche no later than 5 pm Friday before each week's games. Mail slot in our door may be used Wednesday or Thursday night after 5 pm and before 9 am. Mailed entries must be postmarked no later 5 pm Friday. Mail to Crawford County Avalanche, PO Box 490, Grayling, MI 49738. (4) Entries must be on an official entry form as printed in the Avalanche. No purchase necessary to enter. Entry forms are available at the Avalanche office. Winner may claim their prizes at the Avalanche office between 9 am and 5 pm weekdays. Identification and a social security number must be presented when claiming prizes.

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Week #17 Winning Games

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|-----------------|--------------------|
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| 2. NY Giants | 12. Pittsburgh |
| 3. Denver | 13. Indianapolis |
| 4. Buffalo | 14. Oakland |
| 5. Washington | 15. Georgia |
| 6. Green Bay | 16. Gray |
| 7. St. Louis | 17. Boston College |
| 8. Philadelphia | 18. Chicago (43) |
| 9. Atlanta (42) | |
| 10. Miami | |

Winner of the Week

Tyler Hanson

- with 14 correct and the first tiebreaker of 42
- 69 entries

1.) Indianapolis vs Miami

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5.) Georgia Tech vs LSU



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10.) Kansas St. vs Tennessee

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15.) St. Louis vs New Orleans



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2.) St. Louis vs New Orleans

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6.) Oregon vs Texas



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11.) Ohio St. vs South Carolina



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16.) Tampa Bay vs Philadelphia



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3.) Tampa Bay vs Philadelphia

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7.) Northwestern vs Nebraska



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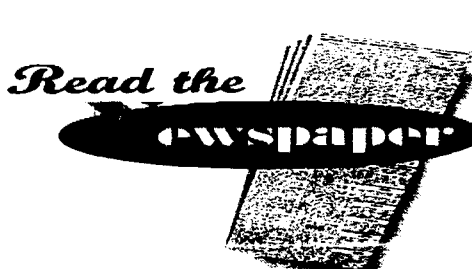
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12.) Clemson vs Virginia Tech



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17.) Denver vs Tennessee

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8.) Fresno St. vs Air Force



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13.) Michigan vs Auburn

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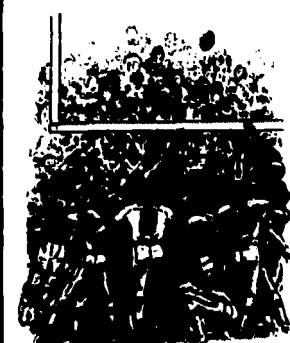


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14.) Indianapolis vs Miami


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New Year's Eve plans should include talk about alcohol safety

For many, New Year's Eve is a chance to wipe the slate clean and embrace the start of the new year with resolutions to improve health, make apologies or take up a hobby.

But University of Michigan Emergency department physicians warn that alcohol can turn that fresh start into a quick and tragic end—they've seen it firsthand. And now they're making an effort to turn Emergency department visits into opportunities to teach patients about the risks alcohol can pose.

"Although the numbers have gone down in recent years, we do see quite a few injuries that are related to alcohol in the emergency department on New Year's Eve," says Ronald F. Maio, M.D., associate professor of emergency medicine and director of the University of Michigan's Injury Research Center. "Two types of injuries that really

stand out are motor vehicle crash injuries and also assaults."

Data shows that the more you drink, the more likely you are to get into a crash, Maio says. About 40 percent of all fatal motor vehicle crashes are alcohol-related and between 20 percent and 80 percent of other injuries like falls and assaults are alcohol-related, he adds.

"You're talking about risking your health and your life if you are doing risky drinking," Maio says.

Maio recommends that those who drink alcohol follow the guidelines of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism on New Year's Eve and always. For men, the guidelines suggest no more than two drinks per day or 14 drinks per week. For women, the recommendation is no more than one drink per day or 14 drinks per week.

The institute's limits for the number of drinks in one sitting are a maximum of four drinks for men, and a maximum of three drinks for women. Anything more than that at one sitting marks a binge drinking episode, Maio says.

"Even if you don't drink during the week and you sit down on a Friday or Saturday night and have six or seven drinks at a time or in one sitting, that would be considered dangerous drinking or risky drinking even though you're under the suggested weekly limit for gender and age," Maio says.

Over the last few years, physicians who treat alcohol-related injuries have become more concerned about what they can do to prevent their recurrence. To that end, the U-M Injury Research Center and Emergency Department physicians recognize that alcohol-related emergency department visits are teachable moments. That's why they are engaged in a study to develop ways to send messages and make emergency department visits into wake-up calls about the effects of alcohol.

In addition to injuries, alcohol poisoning is another risk associated with consuming too much alcohol.

And there's no well-defined level for doctors to determine when alcohol poisoning may occur, Maio says.

For people who don't drink very much, 80 to 100 milligrams per deciliter of blood (on average, four to five drinks), which is the legal limit for intoxication, can cause slurred speech and confusion. From 175 milligrams to 200 milligrams (nine to 10 drinks), individuals often become sleepy or lethargic. At 300 to 400 milligrams (15 to 20 drinks), many people, even those who drink quite a bit, can become comatose. Their breathing also can become affected, and this can lead to death.

"I think that the best advice for individuals who are going to go out and make alcohol part of their celebration is, No. 1 moderation," Maio said. "Remember the guidelines that the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism has set forth for people. No. 2, I think that you want to make sure that you're not going to be exposing yourself to a setting where bad things can happen. I also think that you want to be careful about engaging in any risky behavior while you're drinking. For instance, no diving into the hotel or motel pool after you've had a few drinks and definitely, definitely, think about transportation issues, to avoid driving while intoxicated."

Some may not realize that there's a difference between what's considered legal intoxication and the point where alcohol can affect your driving. "As little as two drinks can affect your driving, even though if someone did the blood alcohol level on you, you'd be below the legal limit for intoxication," Maio says.

Another important point is that the amount of alcohol it takes to affect a person varies from individual to individual. A single drink may have no effect on one person, but may have significant effects on another.

Established in 1997, the goal of the Injury Research Center is to reduce deaths and disabilities from injuries by generating and disseminating knowledge, conducting and

promoting education and informing policy-makers, says Maio. "We have a particular focus on the effects of alcohol and other drugs on injury," he adds.

Research projects currently under way by the center's physicians and researchers include one on methods for identifying those patients being treated for injuries in the Emergency Department who would benefit from educational interventions. Another investigation addresses the physiological effects of alcohol on injuries.

"I think that alcohol-related death should become a rare event," Maio said. "It's really a shame, but an alcohol-related injury is something that really doesn't have to happen. Awareness and responsibility can go a long way in preventing these incidents from happening."

Facts about alcohol's effects on the body:

- About 40 percent of all fatal motor vehicle crashes are alcohol-related. Between 20 percent and 80 percent of other injuries such as falls and assaults are alcohol related.

- One "drink" - 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine, or 1.5 ounces of 80 proof spirits - contains approximately 12 grams of alcohol and will raise your blood alcohol level, on average, 20 to 25 milligrams per deciliter.

- As few as two drinks can affect your ability to drive, even though your blood alcohol content is below the legal limit.

- Drinking excessive amounts of alcohol can not only affect your judgement and coordination, but can also cause coma and death.

- The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism suggests that men have no more than two drinks per day or 14 drinks per week. For women, the recommendation is no more than one drink per day or seven drinks per week.

For more information, visit the following Web sites:

Alcoholics Anonymous
www.alcoholics-anonymous.org/
Al-Anon/Alateen
www.al-anon.alateen.org

New Year's Day Brunch

Monday, January 1, 2001 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Eggs and Omelets cook to order
Devised Short Ribs of Beef
Boneless Round of Beef
Carved Baked Ham
Lamb Curry
Rice Pilaf
Catfish Cajun Style
Cauliflower and Cheese Sauce
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DRINKING & DRIVING SHATTERS DREAMS



So before you take a drink, remember:

- Alcohol does not give you energy. It's a depressant.
- Alcohol is alcohol—it doesn't matter if it's hard liquor or beer.
- You cannot get sober by drinking coffee or taking a cold shower.
- Large amounts of alcohol can hurt your heart, stomach and other organs.
- Hangovers are not the worst of your worries.

When you drink, it hurts you and others. When you drink and drive, it can kill you and others.

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344-0047

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COLDWELL BANKER
800-300-6653



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348-2887

PERSPECTIVE

LIONS PROVIDE CHEER



Members of the Grayling Lions Club made their usual rounds this holiday season, bringing smiles and candy to those hospitalized or confined to an extended care facility. The Lions also visited the younger set at local day care centers and pre-schools.

HEALTHLINE

by Linda Demarchis, M.S., Health Educator

This column is presented as a public service to the community by District Health Department Number 10 which serves a ten county area. If you have any questions you would like to see answered, please call or write the Health Department in your county.

QUESTION: My husband and I are senior citizens. We know, as people get older they are more likely to fall and suffer a serious injury, such as a broken hip. Is there anyway to avoid falls?

SIGNED:
Safety over seventy.

ANSWER: For millions of older Americans, falls are a serious problem. In this country one out of three Americans over 65 falls each year. Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths. In 1997, about 9,000 seniors died of injuries received from a fall. As the number of people over age 65 increases, actually doubling in the next 30 or 40 years, falls will be an even

more serious problem, resulting in more hospital admissions, increased medical costs, and even disability or death.

However, falls are not just the result of aging....they are caused by a number of things and many can be prevented. Here are some suggestions from the National Center For Injury Prevention:

- Begin a regular exercise program (check with your doctor first). Exercise can reduce your chances of falling by making you stronger. Choose exercises that improve balance and coordination.

- Make your home safer, since half of all falls happen at home. Remove things you might trip over from the stairs and main pathways. Remove small throw rugs and use double sided tape on other rugs that may slip.

- Use only cabinets that can be reached easily without using a step stool.

- Have grab bars installed in the bathroom and use non-slip mats in the bathtub

or shower.

- Improve the lighting in your home.

- Have handrails and lights put in on all staircases.

- Wear shoes that give support and have non-slip soles. Avoid slipper and athletic shoes with deep treads.

- Ask your doctor or pharmacist to review all your medications, including non-prescription drugs. Some medicines or combinations of medicines can make you drowsy or light-headed, resulting in falls.

- Have your vision checked by an optometrist or ophthalmologist. You may be wearing the wrong glasses or have a condition that hampers your vision. Poor vision can increase your chances of falling.

Most importantly, don't take chances when it comes to safety. It may be quicker to go outside wearing slippers instead of shoes, or easier to stand on a chair than a step stool. However, the end result of these shortcuts may be a serious fall and a life threatening injury.

SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS

by Jan Farley

Thought for your week ahead: A goal is nothing more than a dream with a time limit.

Come in and see the darling movie "Jack Frost" with Michael Keaton. It will warm your heart in this cold, cold weather.

You know, I think winter is upon us and we will be in it up to our elbows! Keep warm, if you have to venture out and walk safely and above all drive with caution. You know how those "other" people drive!

Beat the winter blahs by coming to your senior Center and see what is going on. Lots of good things are hap-

pening and all you have to do is come and join in! Here's a list of things coming up this next week and the menu for the coming days. (The menu is listed Lunch/Dinner)

Dec. 27- Spaghetti with Meatballs/Bratwurst & Kraut; No exercises or line dancing today, (Christmas vacation); and the special movie at 5:30, described above- "Jack Frost."

Dec. 28- BBQ Chicken/Mac & Cheese; Bp's taken 11 to noon; Pinocchio Club at 1, and cards at 5:30.

Dec. 29 - Roast Beef/no dinner; Pantry Bingo at 1 and 80 cent Rummy in the Rec Room.

Please remember that the center is closed on January 1st and 2nd.

Jan 3 - Pork Steak/Baked Chicken; Hearing Clinic by appointment; Wendys Bingo at 5:30.

Our Congregate Dining Program consists of two meals, Monday through Thursday and one on Friday. Join us for a meal, either at noon or 5pm weekdays except Friday, there is no evening meal.

Please try to call for reservations at 517-348-7123 or 1-888-355-4500, so that we know how many to plan for, however, walk-ins are more than welcome.

One-of-a-kind website features unique goods made by 'Geezers'

► Log-on to Green Thumb's website -- www.Geezer.com

Green Thumb, Inc., the nation's oldest and largest provider of training and employment for mature workers, today launched Geezer.com. This distinctive virtual marketplace is up and running and active for this holiday season. Geezer.com offers online shoppers the handiwork of seniors from cities, towns, villages, and hamlets all across the country.

"Geezer.com is unique," says Andrea Wooten, president and CEO of Green Thumb, Inc., which sponsors and created the site. "It provides talented seniors, even those without computers and Internet access, with a worldwide market for their handcrafted goods. The site brings the unique products of America's seniors to people who don't regularly travel the back roads. Shoppers looking for unusual gifts and accessories will find them right here."

Wooten says the site name may raise a few eyebrows, but it has a positive connotation and visibility among baby boomers who are surfing the Internet looking for distinctive gifts. "We're changing the stereotype of older individuals," she explains, "by demonstrating that seniors are in fact talented, generous, and fun-loving. What better way to dispel the 'geezer myth' than to use the word 'geezer' to reflect the positive characteristics and skills of America's seniors!"

Geezer.com features

scores of artisans and craftspeople, and more than two thousand hand-wrought products in more than a dozen categories including Apparel, Artworks, Doll House, Holiday Shop, Home & Hearth, In the Kitchen, Music & Videos, Pet Store, Sports and Recreation, Toys and Games, and Yard & Garden.

Joe Fortmann, State Director of Green Thumb, Inc. in Mt. Pleasant, one of 29 Green Thumb offices in 44 states and Puerto Rico, says the e-commerce site makes products accessible to consumers everywhere. "Online shopping couldn't be easier with Geezer.com's shopping cart that permits buyers to load up items from a variety of vendors," Fortmann says.

In addition to providing a website for consumers to purchase unique products online, the opportunity for senior artisans to sell their products, says Fortmann, is especially significant. "We are giving seniors across the country the opportunity to supplement their incomes, launch new businesses, and expand the market for their hand-crafted goods."

Developed in partnership with the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Green Thumb's Geezer.com is designed to help older Americans, primarily from rural areas and small communities, with online access or without, to capitalize on the reach and market potential of the Internet. The site not only provides senior artisans the opportunity to sell the craft items they love to make,

but soon it will also help seniors gain access to the information they need to start home-based businesses, Fortmann explains.

As the premier site on the web for senior-made crafts, Geezer.com brims with the vitality, good humor, and special gifts of America's older generation - a generation that knows the value of hard work, loyalty to family, and contribution to community. As Wooten remarks, they are "our esteemed geezers."

Green Thumb, Inc. is a national nonprofit organization best known as America's leader in the field of older worker training and employment. Its mission is to strengthen families, communities, and the nation by providing older and disadvantaged individuals with opportunities to learn, work, and serve others. Founded in 1965, Green Thumb was first chartered to use the "green thumbs" of retired farmers to improve our nation's parks and highways. The four-state pilot project soon evolved into one of the most innovative and cost-effective of all workforce initiatives, the Senior Community Service Employment Program.

Over its history, Green Thumb has expanded its services to bring workforce opportunities each year to more than 125,000 mature workers, dislocated workers, welfare recipients, and adults with special needs in 44 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Green Thumb, Inc., is funded under a grant with the U.S. Department of Labor and approximately 75 other grants and contracts with state and local governments.

Canute named Volunteer of the Month

Bill Canute has been chosen as Senior Center Volunteer of the Month for December.

He has been volunteering for four years and divides his time into transporting,

Meals On Wheels, and working on the Commodity program.

Before moving to Grayling, Canute lived in Mio for 62 years.

He is an avid woodwork-

er and makes many crafty things, including Amish wagons.

He is also known to have a great sense of humor and is quite a joker around the Center.

Satellite Dinners on hold for winter

Senior Satellite Dinners, at both Lovells and Frederic, will be cancelled for the winter months.

Dinners will resume in the spring. Meals continue to be served at the COA Senior Center in Grayling. Seniors from all areas of Crawford County are welcome to dine. For more information, call 348-7123.

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GMS Students of the Month named



Photo courtesy of Grayling Middle School

Grayling Middle School Students of the Month for December are (in alphabetical order): Krystal Babbit, Rachel Brunell, Nicole Cassidy, Steve Cox, Ryan Davis, Angela Delarosa, Stacie Dent, Carolyn Dobry, Jaimi Drudge, Tony English, Gary Feeney, Joe Ferrigan, Dan Hagerman, Zeke Hayes, Brandon Himmel, Lindsey Johns, Trisha Kinsey, Kelly Lange, Kara Longendyke, Tara Meyers, Jessie Morley, Kayla Pindell, Tequila Reynolds, Tyesha Root, Nicholas Steffey, Chelsea Vannuck, Brandi Welch, Samantha Wilkerson, Rick Xiong.

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Inn of Grayling

Two honored for years of dedication

At the December United Way Board meeting, Executive Director Don Schanz presented appreciation plaques to Jerry Gosnell and Bill Gannon for their past years of dedicated service to the Crawford County United Way.

Gannon has been involved with the United Way Board since 1995. He served as Drive Campaign Co-Chair in 1995 and 1996 and has served as vice president of the Board.

Gosnell joined the Board in 1995 and served as Campaign Co-Chair in 1996. For the past two years, he has served as Board President.

In presenting the awards, Schanz thanked both men for their dedication, commitment and leadership to United Way. "They have contributed a lot to this organization and their presence will be missed," said Schanz, speaking on behalf of the Board of Directors.



Photo courtesy of the Crawford United Way

Jerry Gosnell (left) and Bill Gannon (right) were presented with plaques by Executive Director Don Schanz (center) recently honoring them for years of dedicated service to the United Way.

Coaching your college student on credit

You think you've prepared your college-bound child for campus life - the importance of allocating time for proper studying...the challenge of eating nutritiously in the school cafeteria...the consequences of not separating laundry. But what about the growing problem of collegiate credit card debt?

Today's college students are flooded with credit card offers. Credit card companies visit campuses handing out applications and free goodies. Cashiers often drop a credit card application in each bag leaving the college bookstore.

For many students, credit cards present a temptation to charge far more than they can afford to repay. But, used properly, a credit card can be a learning tool that provides convenience, cash protection, worldwide merchant acceptance, an emergency source of cash, and a head start on establishing a good credit history. The Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants offers the following advice for helping your college-bound student learn to manage credit wisely.

Begin With The Basics

Be sure to stress that, except for emergencies, your child shouldn't charge more than he or she can repay at the end of the month. Let your child know that when bills aren't paid in full, the outstanding balance accrues finance charges.

Explain how it could take years to pay off even a modest balance if he or she pays only the minimum due each month.

You can use an online calculator, such as that found at www.kiplinger.com, to demonstrate how long it takes to pay off a credit card balance at different payment levels. Finally, point out the fact that there is no need for more than one credit card. The more cards he or she has, the more likely that your child can get into financial trouble.

Teaser Rates, APR's, and Credit Fees

Help your child comparison-shop for the best card and warn him or her about "teaser" rates. A credit card that starts with a six-month interest rate of 8%, then climbs to 19% after the initial period ends, is no bargain. Suggest that your child compare credit cards based on what the annual percentage rate (APR) will be after any initial offers have expired.

Novice credit cards users also need to know that fees for late payments, over-the-credit-limit fees, and cash advances can be substantial. For example, a student who charges a CD and forgets to pay the bill could easily end up with a late fee that exceeds the cost of two CD's.

Establishing A Credit History

When it comes to credit cards,

perhaps the most critical lesson of all is the importance of building a good credit history. College students must understand that their credit records, just like their transcripts, can have a lasting impact on their future. Explain to them that credit bureaus keep track of credit card holders' payment histories and sell those reports upon request to employers, landlords, lenders, and others that may need to rely on that information in the future.

Practice Makes Perfect

If you would like to give your child a chance to practice before moving on to the real thing, you can call your credit card issuer and request that he or she be made an "authorized user" on your account. This way, they get used to having plastic in their wallets, but they can't run up debt behind your back.

When the bill comes in, let your child know how much he or she owes and when payment is due to you. Whatever you do, don't forgive the debt, or grant a payment extension - you can be sure Visa and Mastercard won't.

A great credit card alternative is a debit or check card. Issued by banks and credit unions, debit cards operate similar to credit cards except that the money is directly withdrawn from the cardholder's checking account. For example, a debit card that carries a Visa or Mastercard logo is accepted at any merchant or restaurant that accepts Visa or Mastercard. But because the money comes out of your account, there are no interest charges. Debit cards are safer to carry than cash and more convenient than checks.

CPA's say that credit management lessons you teach your children before they go off to school are just as important as the education they'll receive while they are there. By properly educating them about the importance of financial responsibility, you help protect them not only while they're in college, but for years to come.



Burning Bush Tabernacle

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Grayling
Pastor P. Petrie 348-1278

WEEKLY SERVICES AND MEETINGS:

Sunday:	fellowship breakfast	9:30
	Sunday school	10:00
	morning service	11:00
	evening service	6:00
Monday:	prayer meeting	7:00
Tuesday:	significant singles	7:00
Wednesday:	Bible study	7:00
Thursday:	dynamic discipleship class	7:00

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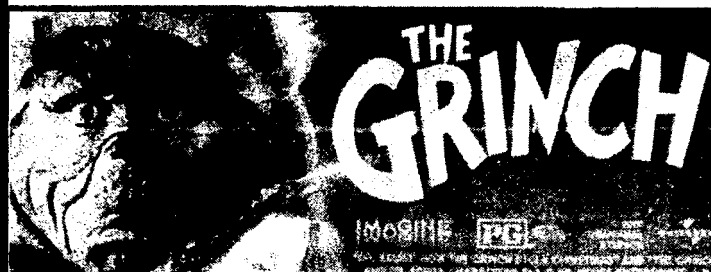
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Thomas and Christine Gauthier of Grayling announce the arrival of Lance Thomas Gauthier born November 28, 2000.

Kevon and Angie Miller of Grayling announce the arrival of Carlee Ann Miller born November 30, 2000.

Stacy Jones of Prudenville announces the arrival of Rory Gabriel Jones born December 1, 2000.

George and Lori Bowler of Houghton Lake announce the arrival of Jeremy Gene Bowler born December 2, 2000.

Jeremy Ratliff and Autumn Miller of Prudenville announce the arrival of Ethan Jeremiah Ratliff born December 5, 2000.

Aaron Kwapis and Crystal McConnell of Johannesburg announce the arrival of Jasmine Merie Kwapis born December 6, 2000.

Dave Kasper and Wendy Findley of Kalkaska announce the arrival of Bryan Michael born December 6, 2000.

Derek and Alisha Pastell of Roscommon announce the arrival of Thomas Matthew Pastell born December 6, 2000.

Kenneth Lemon and Patricia Napier of Grayling announce the arrival of Damon Benjamin Lemon born December 10, 2000.

Paul Kolka and Naomi Hamlin of Grayling announce the arrival of Jacob David Kolka born December 11, 2000.

Kaylee Piehl of Gaylord announces the arrival of Emily Renee Piehl born December 12, 2000.

Brandon Christensen and Dawn Stevens of Grayling announce the arrival of Isaac Parker Stevens born December 13, 2000.

James and Jackie Pratt of Roscommon announce the arrival of Justin Michael Pratt born December 17, 2000.

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The Adventure Race Team of "AuSable River Rats" would like to thank their sponsors for the 2000 race season: The Bicycle Shop; Carlisle Paddles & Oars; Penrods; Gaylord Chiropractic Clinic; Jim's Well Drilling; Omega Pacific; East Branch Embroidery; Fred Mills Builder; Forrest Brothers Inc.; Cellular One.

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OBITUARIES

Gary Vern Wyman

Mar. 22, 1947 - Dec. 21, 2000
Gary Vern Wyman, 53, died at December 21, 2000, at his home in Grayling.

Gary was born to Carl Vern and Phyllis Marie (Cutler) Wyman on March 22, 1947 in Gladwin. Mr. Wyman married his wife Patricia Warner on September 14, 1968 in Dearborn.

Mr. Wyman lived in Westland and moved to Grayling in 1979. Gary was a computer controlled machine operator for Valenite Company of West Branch. He followed sports his daughters were involved in and the Detroit Red Wings. His leisure time was spent caretaking for his home and his neighborhood, outdoors, cutting wood with his parents to heat their homes and entertaining family and friends with campfires.

Gary was preceded in death by his grandparents and his father-in-law, Roy Warner.

Survivors include: his wife, Patricia; three daughters, Krista Joy (Robert) Dowding of Lansing, Karen Lynn Wyman and Katherine Marie Wyman both of Grayling; one sister Debra Marie (Melvin) Moore of Plymouth; one brother, Carlton Gene Wyman of Ocquec and mother-in-law Marion Warner of Grayling.

Funeral services were held December 23, 2000 at the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, with Ann Doty and Sister Jean Umlor officiating. Arrangements were made by Sorenson Funeral Home. Burial will be at Elmwood Cemetery.

Memorials should be made to: A.L.S. Foundation or Mercy Amicare Hospice of Grayling.

Anna Alice Nelson

Jun. 24, 1904 - Dec. 22, 2000
Anna Alice Nelson, 96, died at Mercy Manor, Grayling, on December 22, 2000.

Mrs. Nelson was born on June 24, 1904 to Jacob and Anna (Pivernitz) Deurstein in Edgar, Wisconsin. On October 31, 1923, Alice married Earl W. Nelson in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Mrs. Nelson lived in Grayling most of her life. Mrs. Nelson graduated from Wausaw Wisconsin High School in 1923. During the war she graduated and worked in the hospital as a nurse aide and eventually worked for the DNR for fifteen years, retiring in 1966. She was a member of Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church for 74 years and active in their Sunday school department.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have spent retirement years at their home on Lake Margarethe and in Florida until the last fifteen years, which have been spent year round at Lake Margarethe.

She was preceded in death by her husband, on August 14, 1996 and one sister, Irene Abraham.

Survivors include: three sons; Robert (Victoria) Nelson of Grayling, Richard (Barbara) Nelson of Grayling and Roger (Sharon) Nelson of Mason. Nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held December 23, 2000, at Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church, Reverend Jeffrey Jagers officiating.

The family requests memorials to The Crawford County Animal Shelter.

George A. Granger, Sr.

Mar. 5, 1907 - Dec. 23, 2000
George Augustus Granger, Sr., 93, died at Benson House, in Cheboygan, on December 23, 2000.

Mr. Granger was born on March 5, 1907 to George and Franselia (Corwin) Granger in Noxapater, Mississippi. In 1931 he married Ruby Stephan in Grayling; she preceded him in death in 1974; he then married Anna Gross in 1975, in Grayling.

George was City Manager of Big Rapids for 19 years, and City Manager of Grayling for 12 years. He was a member of both the Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church and the Big Rapids Methodist Church. George was a member of the Big Rapids Rotary Club, belonged to the Grayling Masonic Lodge for 62 years and also was a Kiwanis Club member.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother and two sisters, wife, Ruby and wife, Anna.

Survivors include: two sons, George A. (Shirley) Granger, Jr. of Cadillac, James H. (Marilyn) Granger of Cheboygan; grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held December 27, 2000 at Sorenson Funeral Home, Reverend Jefferey Jagers officiating.

BOWLING LEAGUE

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Served to your table at 12:30am

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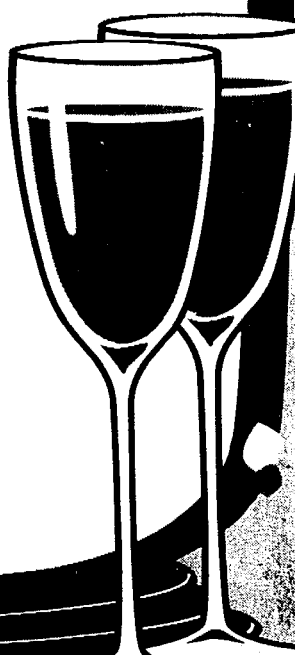
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Fruit and Breakfast Platter
Served to your table at
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Pictured left to right: George Stancil, Paul Thomson, Linda Northrop, Annette Metzger, Carrie O'Dell, Ron Thomson, Doronda Klee, and Jill Rutter.

In the spirit of peace and joy we wish each and every one of you a season filled
with friendship, love and contentment. Many thanks for your patronage.
From your friends at Cornell Agency



More wrestling 2B

Crawford County Avalanche

Thursday, December 28, 2000

9th graders win 4th straight game

Grayling's freshman basketball team wins two more, both by large margins



Joe Lange takes a shot in last Thursday's game against the Standish Sterling Panthers. Lange scored 15 points and brought down 14 rebounds in the contest for his fifth consecutive double-double in as many games. The Vikings defeated Standish Sterling Central 62-37 for their fourth straight victory.

Photos by Caleb Casey

► Vikes victorious in home matches against Pinconning, Standish Sterling

by Caleb Casey
Staff Writer

The GHS freshman boys basketball team won both of its games by large margins last week, defeating Pinconning 63-33 on Monday, and beating Standish Sterling Central 62-37 on Thursday.

The Vikings lost their first match of the season (to Gaylord), but have won their last four games in a row, and go into the holiday break with a 4-1 record.

On Monday, the Vikings finished 30 points ahead of the visiting Spartans of Pinconning.

Joe Lange scored 16 points and brought down 17 rebounds for his fourth consecutive double-double. Travis Gildner also posted a double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds. Chad Helsel scored 13 points, and Tyler Knapp finished with 11.

"I think we're starting to understand how good we can be," said Coach Duane VanDresc. "Defensively, we allowed eight and seven points in the third and fourth quarters. If we play well and put four quarters together, we're going to be tough to beat."

On Thursday, the Vikings put together another solid performance, defeating the Panthers of Standish Sterling Central by a final score of 62-37. Grayling worked hard on the boards and hustled all game.

In the first quarter, Standish brought full court pressure defense, but the Vikings handled it well with good passing on the press breaks.

Travis Gildner scored the first bucket for Grayling. With 6:30 left in the first quarter, SSC led 6-2. The Vikings then scored eight unanswered points to take a 10-6

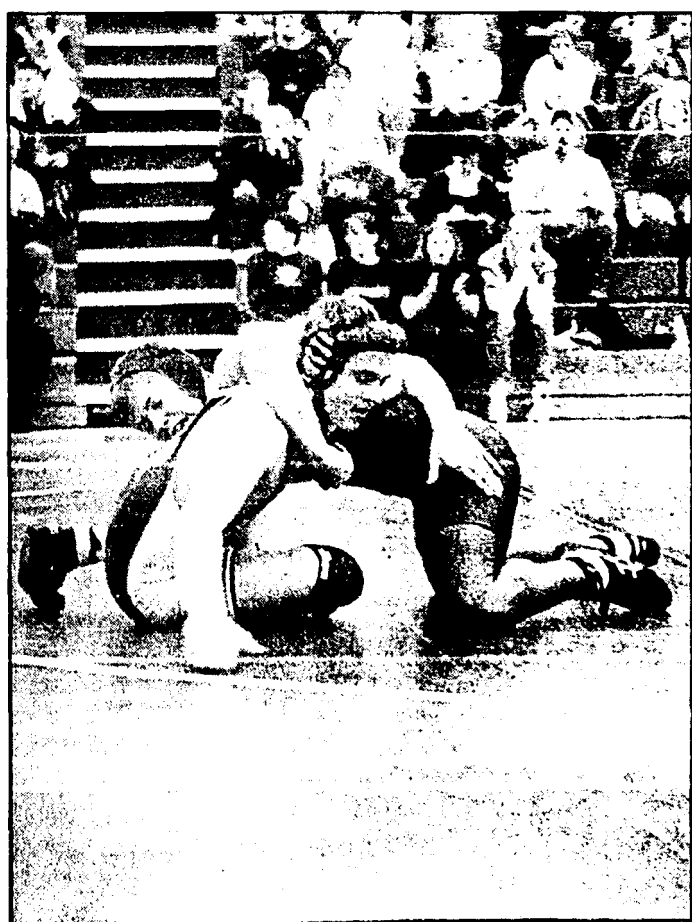
Continued on Page 3B
See "9TH GRADERS..."



Phil Armstrong drives in for a lay-up in Grayling's 62-37 win over the Panthers of Standish Sterling Central last Thursday.

Vikings win holiday wrestling tourney

Charlevoix Holiday Tournament won by Grayling for third consecutive year



Photos by Caleb Casey

(Left) Darryl Babbitt wrestles for the Vikings. Babbitt (140) took second place in his division at the Charlevoix Holiday Tournament, which GHS won for a third straight year. (Above) Victor CdeBaca goes for a pin as the referee looks in. CdeBaca took first place in the 189-pound weight class at the Charlevoix tourney. For more on the wrestling team's tournament victory, see Page 2B.

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Thank you for letting us help you look your best!

Heads Up North

Pictured Back L-R: Ticia Norman, Carmen Miller & Sara Hise. Front L-R: Gail Swope, Rene' Aston & Wendy Sheldon

Vikings win holiday tourney

► 'Team effort' helps Grayling win holiday tournament for 3rd straight time

The Grayling High School wrestling team won the annual Charlevoix Holiday Tournament championship on Saturday, December 16, defeating five other northern Michigan squads. The Vikings have now won the Charlevoix tournament three years in a row.

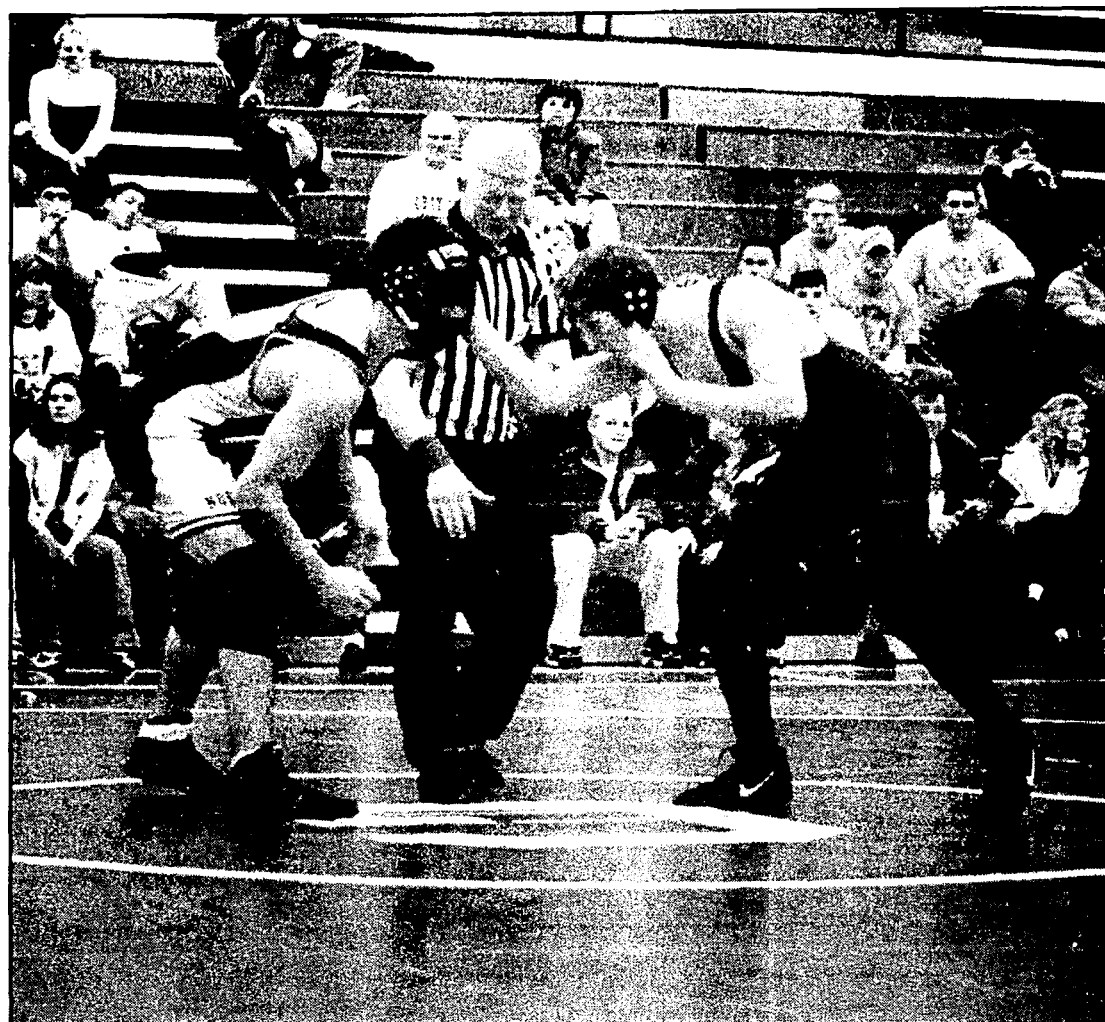
"A great team effort," said Coach Don Ferguson.

All of Grayling's wrestlers added team points in the tournament win.

Andy Palmer (125 pounds), Chris Peters (171), and Victor CdeBaca (189) each took first place overall in their respective weight classes. Adam Malone (112), Darryl Babbitt (140), and Dusty Partello (145) each took second place in their divisions.

Sam Crowell, Mike Gassman, Tom Burnett, Billy Partello, Chris McGuire, Jessie Mooneyham, and Roy Middleton also earned team points for GHS.

The Vikings started the tournament with a 57-24 win over Mio. In round two, Grayling finished 20 points ahead of Mancelona, 50-30. The Vikings dominated Gaylord in the third round 57-18. Grayling beat Petoskey in the next round 44-30, and sealed the tourney championship with a 54-30 win over the host team, Charlevoix, in the fifth

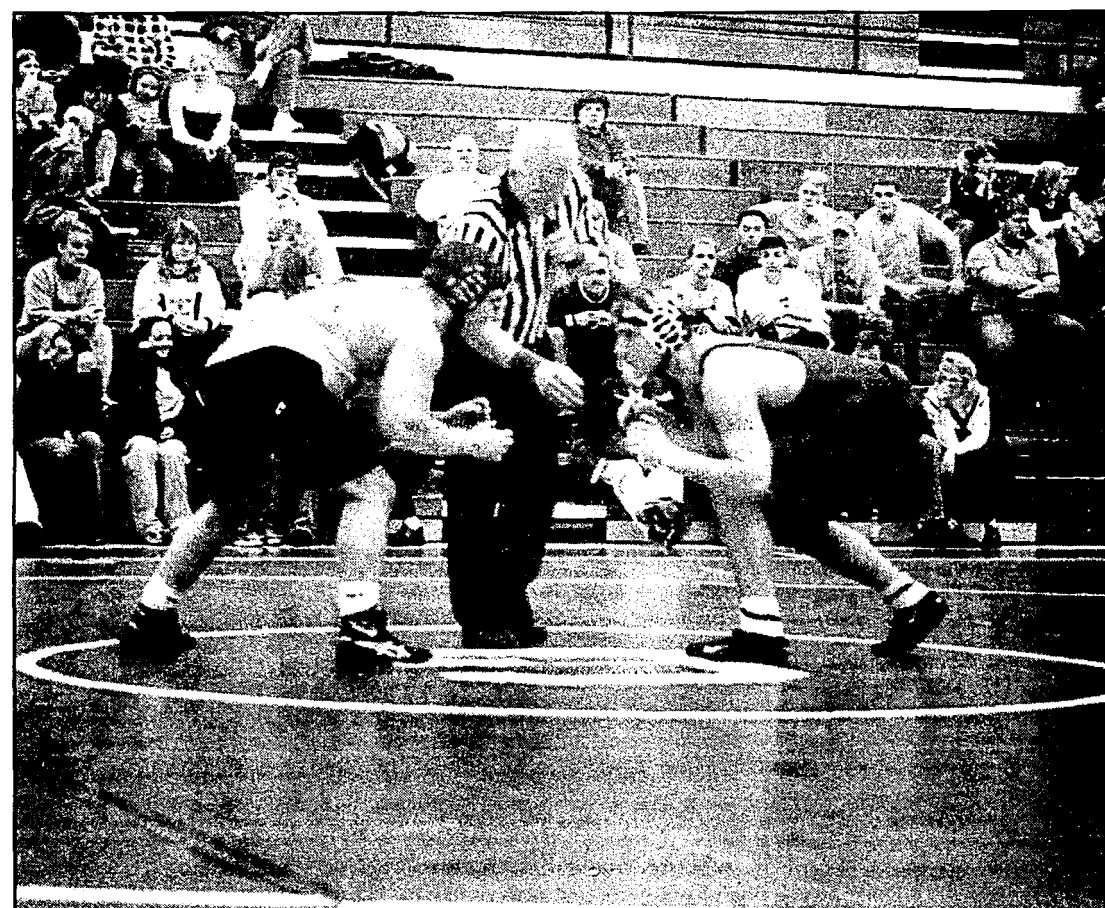


Photos by Caleb Casey

Grayling wrestler Dusty Partello (right) squares off against an opponent.

and final round of tournament. The Grayling wrestling team will host Cheboygan and Bay City John Glenn on January 11, the Vikings will compete at Gladwin against the Flying G's.

After the holiday break, the Thursday, January 4, at 6 p.m. On



Grayling's Roy Middleton (right) gets set at the beginning of a match.

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Viking of the Week

Wrestling
Coach: Don Ferguson
VICTOR CDEBACA

Victor, a senior, defeated all five of his opponents in Grayling's victory at the Charlevoix Tournament.

Guess which baby's mother drank while she was pregnant.

11 out of 100 people, said a doctor from a study done by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) found that babies born to mothers who drank alcohol during pregnancy were more likely to be born with facial features that resembled a baby's mother.

NICHD

9th graders win 4th straight game

Continued from Page 1B

lead. The run included a triple by Andy Strohpaal, a put-back and a free throw by Lange, and a lay-up by Phil Armstrong.

A three-pointer and a jumper put Standish up by one, 11-10. A jump shot and a drive to the basket by Gildner gave GHS a 14-11 lead. With 1:26 left in the first period, Lange scored a shot inside on a nice pass from Gildner to put Grayling up 16-13.

Helsel scored a jumper and a lay-up in the last 20 seconds of the quarter to give Grayling a 20-15 lead after one period of play.

The Vikings opened the second quarter with a three-point play by Gildner, who was fouled on a put-back. Two free throws by Knapp at the 5:14 mark put Grayling up by 10, 25-15. Standish went on an 8-1 run to pull within three, 26-23.

Grayling scored the last points of the half on two free throws by Lange. The Vikings led 28-23 at halftime.

SSC scored the first two baskets of the third quarter to pull within one, 28-27.

The Vikings scored eight unanswered points to go up by nine. The run included a drive by Gildner, two scores by Armstrong, and a jumper by Strohpaal. At the 4:20 mark, Lange hit a shot inside to put Grayling up 38-29.

GHS scored 11 unanswered points to take a 49-32 lead. The streak started with two free throws by Helsel, then continued with a drive by Lange and a lay-up by Gildner. A triple by Helsel on an in-bounds pass from Lange made it 11 straight Viking points.

Grayling led 49-34 following the 21-point scoring effort in the third period.

The Vikings outscored SSC 13-3 in the final period to seal the win. GHS scored fourth quarter points on a lay-up by Strohpaal, a three-point play by Gildner, a put-back by Lange, two free throws by Knapp, and two more buckets by Strohpaal.

The Vikings won the match 62-37, the team's fourth straight win.

"I am so proud of our effort," said Coach VanDrese. "This is by far our most complete effort of the season. We came out with great energy and attacked from the start. We got better defensively as the game wore on. We allowed only three points in the fourth quarter. We are finally start-



Photos by Caleb Casey

Tyler Knapp is fouled on his way to the basket on a fast break in last Thursday's game against Standish.

ing to understand that our defense is going to get us easy offense. Great effort."

Lange continued to be a strong presence down low, grabbing 14 rebounds and scoring 15 points for his fifth consecutive double-double (in five games). Gildner finished with 16 points and nine rebounds, and Strohpaal added 11 points to the offensive effort.

The Vikings shot 11/14 from the free throw line for the second game in a row. In five games, the team has shot a solid 67 percent from the line

(60/90).

After the holiday break, the Vikings will face West Branch Ogemaw Heights at West Branch on January 8. On Thursday, January 11, the freshman team will host Bay City John Glenn at 6:15 p.m.

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Standings

Sawmill II	97
Spikes	96
Swamp II	94
Holiday Inn	94
Frederic Inn	87
Legion	85
Plaza	66
Sawmill I	53
5 Ball Run: Lanette D. of Swamp, Cathy B. of Plaza and Johanna W. of Plaza.	
6 Ball Run: Beth A. of Plaza.	

Gaylord Cinema West

1775 M-32 WEST
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**NOW SHOWING
DEC. 22-28**

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas - PG (105)

Starring: Jim Carrey & Molly Shannon
• Fri 7pm • Sat & Sun 2 & 7pm • Sun 2pm • Mon 7pm • Tues - Thurs 2 & 7pm

The Emperor's New Groove - G (80)

Voices: David Spade & John Goodman
• Fri 7:15 & 9pm • Sat 2, 4:15, 7:15, 9:00pm • Sun 2pm • Mon 7:15, 9pm • Tues - Thurs 2, 4:15, 7:15, 9pm

Family Man - PG-13 (126)

Starring: Nicolas Cage & Tea Leoni
• Fri 7 & 9:20pm • Sat 2, 4:20, 7, 9:20pm • Sun 2pm • Mon 7, 9:20pm • Tues - Thurs 2, 4:20, 7, 9:20pm

Vertical Limit - PG-13 (125)

Starring: Chris O'Donnell & Scott Glenn
• Fri 9:15pm • Sat 4:15, 9:15pm • Mon 9:15 • Tues - Thurs 4:15, 9:15pm

What Women Want - PG-13 (127)

Starring: Mel Gibson & Helen Hunt
• Fri 7, 9:20pm • Sat 2, 4:20, 7, 9:20pm • Sun 2, Mon 7, 9:20pm • Tues - Thurs 2, 4:20, 7, 9:20pm

Cast Away - PG-13 (144)

Starring: Tom Hanks & Helen Hunt
• Fri 7, 9:30pm • Sat 2, 7, 9:30pm • Sun 2pm • Mon 7, 9:30pm • Tues - Thurs 2, 7, 9:30pm

Miss Congeniality (PG-13) (110)

Starring: Sandra Bullock
• Fri 7, 9:15pm • Sat 2, 4:15, 7, 9:15pm • Sun 2pm • Mon 7, 9:15 • Tues - Thurs 2, 4:15, 7, 9:15pm

Evenings: Adults \$6 • Children \$4.50 • Seniors \$5
Tuesday Series Matinee \$2
Matinees: All Seats \$4.50

Happy New Year

May every happiness be yours
throughout the new year
Many thanks to our patrons.



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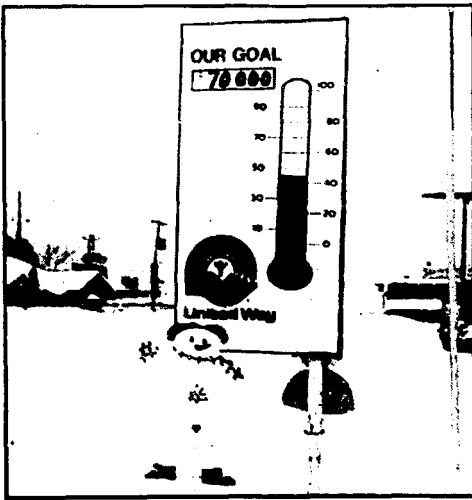


THANK YOU!



The United Way Board wishes to thank the many businesses and individuals who supported C.A.R.E. Night through generous donations of merchandise for the auctions or for donating their time to help at the event on November 11, 2000.

J. Dap	Chemical Bank	DuBois Lumber	Terry Norman
Rialto Theater	North	Central Michigan	Fox Run Country
Sylvesters	Shirley Schmoock	Lumber	Club
Skip Madsen	Remax of Grayling	Sears	Hardbodyz Fitness
Gail Madsen	Grayling	Signals & Sounds	Alpine Carpet
Icehouse Quilt Shop	Recreational	Concrete Critters &	AAA of Michigan-
Flowers by Josie	Authority	Things	Linda Stephens
Milltown Title &	Representative	The Medicine	Roxann Brown
Escrow	Jason Allen	Shopper	Bloomin' Grape
Crawford County	Ray's Canoe &	Borcher's Bed &	Hartwick Pines
Avalanche	Fly Factory	Breakfast	State Park
Monte Burmeister	Dr. Bill Dean	Coldwell Banker-	Mercy Health Care
Scheer Motors	Hometown Furniture	Cornell Realty	at Home
Shoppenagon's Inn	Gannon	Comfort Center	Northland Area
Citizens Bank	Broadcasting	Fun "N" Sun Rentals	Fed. Credit Union
Big Boy Restaurant	Terry Bloomquist	McLean Hardware	Active Computers &
Aunt Betty's	Air Way Automation	Derwich Industries	Technologies
Restaurant	Crawford County &	Boards & Beyond	Grayling
Amicare	Title	Lori Holcomb	Promotional
Buccilli's Pizza	Judy Woodland	Skip's Sport Shop	Association
Gray-Rock	Margretheville	Dee's Tees &	Parrots Perch
Restaurant	Crawford Station	Sweats	Grayling Auto
Cross Country Ski	Restaurant	Jansen Agency	Repair
Shop	Grayling Physical	Subway	The Milltown
Grayling Country	Therapy	Blockbuster Video	Groomers
Club	Grayling Restaurant	Terry's Sport Center	Goodale's Bakery
Joan Dickerson-	China West	Upper Lakes Tire	AuSable Gifts
Peters	Restaurant	A Cut Above	Mercy Hospital
Creative	Alpena Beverage	Stapleton Foods	Auxiliary Shop
Photography	Cartwright &	S & B Auto Repair	Wayne Koppa
Stevens Family	Danewell	Northern	Mary Ann Ferrigan
Circle	Fabiano Brothers	Expressions	Barb Hinderleider
Riverhouse Shelter	Rae Ann Schanz	Penrod's Canoes	Don Schanz
Dr. Barry Fenn	Grayling Hospital for	Steed Yung	Ruth Joyce
Bird's Eye Aviation	Animals	Diana Stubbe	Mariann Gosnell
Davis Jewelry	Lange Vending	Jeanette Kitchen	Mark Furst
Grayling Glass Inc.	Grayling	Ron Joyce	Bonnie French
Classic Container	Chiropractic	Jamie Greer	Gary Caulkins
Grayling Pharmacy	Clinic	Bill Zell	Brian Borchers
Goldstar Trailers	Heads Up North	Dale French	Gretchen Reiser
Grayling Smoke	The Bicycle Shop	Dave Sabin	Elaine Jansen
Shoppe	AuSable River	Bill Borchers	Gary McConnell
Milltown Feed &	Canoe Marathon	Linda Golinick	Jerry Gosnell
Lawn	Emergency	Dave Jansen	Carolyn Diponio
Moore's Automotive	Physicians	Tim Zigla	Debbie Bondar
Kiwanis	Medical Group	John Cherven	John Jones
Riverland	Sledheads	Maureen McNamara	



**A very special thank you to
Nancy and John Hunt for
coordinating this year's event.**

**Thank you all for helping to
build a caring community---
THE UNITED WAY**

GRAYLING REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS:

"Taking Control of Your Health Care"

Tuesday, January 9, 2001

7:30-9:00 a.m.

Grayling Holiday Inn

\$7.50 for buffet breakfast

Topics:

- Cost cutting options
- Sole proprietors vs. Larger Companies
- Prescription coverage
- Generic vs. Brand name
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WANT TO QUIT SMOKING? NEED SOME HELP?

Wednesday From 11:30am - 12:30pm
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January 10 - February 14

Take a S.T.E.P. in the right direction.
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Call District Health Department #10 today.

348-7800

(a low cost, individualized program)



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Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

January is Health & Fitness Month

Fitness means something different to everyone. Weight loss is one of the more common definitions, and for good reason. Losing just five pounds can increase your ability to perform more physically demanding tasks and decrease your risk of diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, and gallstones. But many people may not realize that fitness can go beyond watching your weight. Learning to better manage your time and everyday stress can have as much of a health benefit as exercising regularly.

Whatever your reason for getting fit, there is a program here that can help you get the New Year off to a healthy start.

Body Composition Analysis

Body composition is a better indicator of appropriate weight than just the number on the scale. Bioelectric impedance analysis assesses your body's muscle and fat composition. Participants should check in at the front lobby. Cost is \$5.

Mercy Hospital Grayling
January 11, 10 am - 2 pm

Other offerings in January

Lamaze Childbirth Preparation Class

A seminar for expectant parents. For cost information and to preregister, call (517) 348-0708.

Mercy Hospital Grayling
Begins January 11, 7 - 9 pm

Free Cancer Support Program

This program provides an atmosphere for learning, sharing, and comforting for anyone confronting cancer.

Mercy Hospital Grayling - Crawford Room
January 15, 6:30 - 8 pm

*Get Interactive!

Many classes are available live at community hospitals throughout northern Michigan via the REMEC Telehealth Network. Persons wishing to attend via interactive television at Mercy Hospital Grayling must register prior to attending by calling **1-800-33-MERCY (800-336-3729)**.

Local athletes win adventure race

The "AuSable River Rats" team, made up of three local endurance athletes and a veteran adventure racer from Ann Arbor, won the 36-hour "Bush Bash 2000 Adventure Race" held in the Upper Peninsula in August.

The team, consisting of Bob Smith (Higgins Lake), Fred Mills (Higgins Lake), Chad Swander (Grayling), and Lauren Shellenberger (Ann Arbor), traveled by map and compass by hiking, mountain biking, canoeing, and sea kayaking on Lake Superior during the adventure race.

The route had 13 specified points to check into along the course, which included a rope crossing of the Tahquamenon River at the lower falls. The 120-mile course ran from south to north starting at the Cut River Bridge on U.S. 2 and ending at Whitefish Point. The winning team's time was 32 hours and 25 minutes. The AuSable River Rats foursome had the honor of being the only group to complete the entire course.

The four athletes train year round by marathon canoe racing, mountain biking, running, cross country skiing, snow shoeing, kayaking, and hiking.



(Left to right) Members of the "AuSable River Rats" adventure racing team at Cut River Bridge in the Upper Peninsula: Bob Smith, Higgins Lake; Chad Swander, Grayling; Fred Mills, Higgins Lake; Lauren Shellenberger, Ann Arbor.

7th grade Vikings defeat West Branch 29-15

► Grayling Middle School squad opens season with win over WB, loss to HL

The GMS 7th grade boys basketball (green) team started the season at 1-1 last week with a two-point

loss to Houghton Lake and a 29-15 win over West Branch.

On December 11, the Vikings opened the season with a 26-24 loss to the Bobcats of Houghton Lake at Houghton Lake.

Ryan Feldhauser scored 10 points for the Vikings to lead the offensive effort. Reagan Schmidt, Nate Helsel, Mitchell Salyers, Neil Cook,

Bob Starks, and Kellan Quigley also scored in the match.

"The team played real well considering it was their first game and it was on the road," said Coach Mark Hartman. "The boys played well as a team with everyone contributing. Zach Dean and John Schneider really helped on the boards and defense."

Last Monday, the team defeated the West Branch Patriots at West Branch 29-15.

Quigley was Grayling's leading scorer with 16 points. Feldhauser, Dean, Brad Galloway, Schmidt, and

Salyers also scored in the contest.

Coach Hartman said "aggressive play" was one of the keys to Grayling's 14-point victory.

"They were not as nervous as the first game," said Hartman. "The boys shot more and played great defense. With the help of good defensive play from Neil Cook and John Schneider and balanced scoring, the Vikings were able to pull off a win on the road."

The team will play West Branch on January 4, a make-up game for the scheduled December 11 match-up.

Grayling 8th graders edge West Branch

► Middle school basketball team wins by one against WB squad 38-37

The Grayling Middle School 8th grade boys basketball (green) team defeated West Branch by one point last Monday in Grayling, 38-37.

"A great defensive effort against a big West Branch team," said Coach Craig Hofman. "We had a great all-around team rebounding effort and did a solid job on the press to create turnovers."

Gib Tobin led Grayling's offensive effort with 18 points, five

rebounds, and five steals. Ryan Davis finished with 14 points, eight rebounds, and four steals; Jess Bobenmoyer had five points, four rebounds, and two steals; and Jason Strohpaal scored one point and had three rebounds.

"Travis Brush and Jason Strohpaal did a great job off the bench against the big guys," said Coach Hofman. "James Haven and Doug Webb also had good, solid games. We still are turning the ball over too much and we need to work on free throws. We were 7 of 22."

On January 8, the Vikings will play at Kalkaska. On Wednesday, January 10, GMS will host Roscommon.

HONORS

Kim Laughton, a teacher at Grayling Elementary School, was named to the Bay County Sports Hall of Fame earlier this year for her role with the state-champion 1989 Pinconning Spartans girls softball team.

The entire 1989 Pinconning squad was inducted as a team this year, and honored with other inductees at the 10th Annual Bay County Sports Hall of Fame Banquet this fall. Laughton played first base for the 1989 Pinconning team.

The Spartans finished the 1989 season at 32-3, and won the Class B state championship.



Kim Laughton
Bay County Sports
Hall of Fame inductee

KIRTLAND BASKETBALL

Kirtland's mens basketball team won 85-81 at home against the Alma College JV Scots on Friday, December 8, at the CRAF Center in Roscommon.

"The key thing was our free throws; we made 16 out of 19. We didn't pass well, but we made it through the errors," said Coach Glen Donahue. "Alma was the best shooting team that I've seen. They made 13 three-point shots out of 20.

Kyle Kitzmiller made a great play with a lay-up off a long pass. LaShawn Moody played great in the second half with 11 points. Alvaids Gedminas had 20 rebounds all together."

Kelsey Wood led the Firebirds in scoring with 15 points. Other leading scorers included Moody (14), Gedminas (14), and Monte Tucker (13).

Call 1-800-33-MERCY (800-336-3729).

For a complete list of offerings
visit www.mercygrayling.com.



MERCY HOSPITAL GRAYLING

A Division of Mercy Health Services

CMU honors band selects 8 GHS students

► Grayling High School band members take part in CMU events

Last month, nine Grayling High School auditioned for the Central Michigan University annual high school honors band. Eight of the nine students were accepted into the band: Kip Franklin, clarinet; Todd Gaffke, alto saxophone; Ken Heinlein, tuba; Gail Hiliker, bass clarinet; Andy Holzbauer, bassoon; Apryl Rugenstein, French horn; Gwen Seifert, clarinet; and Alexis Sumner, contra-bass clarinet.

In late November, the CMU honors band performed. After rehears-

ing all day the day prior to the performance and the afternoon of the day of the event, the students performed three pieces at the CMU recital hall, including Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro."

Also in November, several GHS band members traveled to CMU to participate in the university's annual workshop. The students were taught by well-known faculty members and CMU students. The GHS students had the opportunity to learn even more about their instrument of specialty.

Students that participated in the CMU workshop include: Lexi Bondar, oboe; Mallory Olson, oboe; Holzbauer, bassoon; Maeghan Corwin, French horn; Elizabeth Kane, French horn; Rugenstein,



Eight GHS students were selected for the annual CMU honors band.

French horn; Ann Hughes, trumpet; Nickole Hatley, clarinet; Gaffke, Matt Thomas, trumpet; Heinlein, saxophone; and Damian tuba; Alexis Sumner, clarinet; Fleishmann, saxophone.

LEGAL ACTION

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE-Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Steven A. Roby and Carmen L. Roby husband and wife (original mortgagors) to Old Kent Bank, Mortgagee, dated April 25, 1997 and recorded on June 25, 1997 in Liber 432, on Page 286, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND 98/100 DOLLARS (\$53,100.98), including interest at 9.250% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in the Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 AM, on January 31, 2001.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF GRAYLING, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

The South 1/2 of the North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 10, Town 26 North, Range 2 West, EXCEPT 33 feet off the West side for Road purposes.

AND The North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 10, Town 26 North, Range 2 West, EXCEPT 33 feet off the West side for road purposes.

The redemption period shall be 12 month(s) from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 21, 2000
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE
CALL: 248-593-1313

Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200026378

-21-28-4-11-18

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE-Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Jodon T. Grala, a single man (original mortgagor) to Shore Mortgage, Mortgagee, dated December 18, 1998 and recorded on January 7, 1999 in Liber 471, on Page 162, Crawford County Records, Michigan, and was assigned by said mortgagee to the Nationwide Home Mortgage Company, as assignee by an assignment dated September 13, 2000, which was recorded on September 13, 2000, in Liber 517, on Page 216, Crawford County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FORTY AND 96/100 DOLLARS (\$76,340.96), including interest at 7.500% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in the Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 AM, on January 31, 2001.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF BEAVER CREEK, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

The East 1/2 of East 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 9, Town 25 North Range 3 West, Also known as Parcel H, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 12 month(s) from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 21, 2000
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE
CALL: 248-593-1310

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE-Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Mark W. Pollen a married man (original mortgagors), to Bank One N/A NBD Bank, mortgagee, dated March 10, 1999, and recorded on March 19, 1999 in Liber 0477, on Page 209, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of FOURTEEN THOUSAND FIFTY-SEVEN AND 63/100 DOLLARS (\$14,057.63), including interest at 7.750% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 AM, on January 17, 2001.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF GRAYLING, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 3, Block 2 Brink's Park, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 33 Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 7, 2000
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE
CALL: 248-593-1310

Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200024431

-7-14-21-28-4

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Robert L. Ralston, single man (original mortgagors) to Conesco Finance Servicing Corporation f/k/a Green Tree Financial Servicing Corporation, Mortgagee, dated May 26, 1998 and recorded on May 8, 2000 in Liber 507, page 334, Crawford County Records, Michigan, and re-recorded on September 7, 2000 in Liber 516, Page 558, Crawford County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THIRTY THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTEEN AND 83/100 DOLLARS (\$30,913.83), including interest at 13.150% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 a.m., on January 24, 2001.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF GRAYLING, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lots 3 and 4, Block 4, Oak Hill Park, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 01 of Plats, Page 27, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined

abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 14, 2000
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE
CALL:

248-593-1310
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File #200015399

-14-21-28-4-11

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Theodore M. Rondeau and Cynthia A. Strong, Mortgagors, to Old Kent Bank of Gaylord, now known as Old Kent Bank, Mortgagee, dated April 1, 1993, recorded on April 13, 1993 in Liber 357, Page 363, Crawford County Register of Deeds and Prime Access Notice of Increase dated November 7, 1994, recorded November 17, 1994 in Liber 386, Page 366, Crawford County Register of Deeds. By reason of such default the undersigned declared the entire unpaid amount of the debt secured by the mortgage immediately due and payable.

At the date of this notice the amount due for principal and interest and advances on the mortgage is the sum of Thirty-six Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Four Dollars and Fifty-Nine Cents (\$36,934.59), including interest at the rate of 11% per annum. No suit or proceedings at law have been instituted to recover the debt secured by the mortgage or any part thereof.

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the applicable statutes, and to pay such amount with interest, as provided in the mortgage and all legal costs, charges, and expenses, including attorneys fees allowed by law, the mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgaged premises at public sale to the highest bidder at the Crawford County Courthouse in Grayling, Michigan on Wednesday, January 17, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. local time. The premises covered by the mortgage are situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:

Lots 5 and 6, Sunset Park, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 01 of Plats, Page 74, Crawford County Records. Commonly known as 8564 Clough Drive, Grayling, Michigan 49738. Subject to existing highways, easements and rights of way of record. The above described premises contains less than 3 acres.

Pursuant to the Public Acts of 1971, as amended, the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, unless it is determined abandoned pursuant to MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 14, 2000
RHOADES, MCKEE, BOER
GOODRICH & TITTA
Mary L. Williams P40705
Attorney for the Mortgagee
161 Ottawa NW, Suite 600
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
616-235-3500

-14-21-28-4

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE-Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Harry A. Thomson a single man (original mortgagors) to Citizens Bank f/k/a Grayling State Bank, a Michigan Corporation, Mortgagee, dated July 31, 1995 and recorded on August 9, 1995 in Liber 298, on Page 126, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THIRTY-FOUR

THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR AND 98/100 DOLLARS (\$34,164.98), including interest at 8.250% per annum. Adjustable rate mortgage. Interest rate may change 9/1 and every 36 months thereafter.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in the Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 AM, on February 7, 2001.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF GRAYLING, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Being part of GRAYLING PARK, recorded in Liber 1 of plats, page 26, Crawford County records. Situated in part of Government Lot 4, Section 15, Town 26 North, Range 4 West, and in part of Government Lot 1, Section 15, Town 26 North, Range 4 West, all in Grayling Township, Crawford County, Michigan, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 15, T26N R4W. Thence N00°32'00"W along the East line of the plat of OAK ACRES PARK, recorded in Liber 1 of plats, page 49, Crawford County Records 657.84 feet (recorded as 658.00 feet) to the Northeast corner of said plat; thence S87°45'22"W (recorded as S87°48'00"W along the North line of OAK ACRES PARK and N89°14'W along the North line of GRAYLING PARK being the same line indicated as the South 1/16th line of said Section 15) 927.52 feet; thence S11°09'02"E 33.59 feet to a found 1/2" bar, being the monumented position of the Northwest corner of Block 3 of said plat of GRAYLING PARK; thence continuing S11°09'02"E along a line purported to be the East Right-of-way of North Portage Avenue 611.67 feet (recorded as S10°00'00"E 610.00 feet) to a point purported to be an angle point in the Easterly Right-of-way of North Portage Avenue; thence S38°41'06"E along a line purported to be the East Right-of-way of North Portage Avenue 19.88 feet (recorded as 25.5 feet) to a found 1/2" bar and cap purported to monument the position of the Northwest corner of Lot 13, Block 3 for a Point of Beginning; thence continuing S38°41'06"E 104.18 feet (recorded as 67.00 feet) to a found concrete monument purported to be the position of the Southeast corner of Block 3; thence N24°43'42"E along a line purported to be the Westerly Right-of-way of Poplar Avenue 114.39 feet (recorded as 106.5 feet to a set 1/2" X 18" steel bar and cap said bar set at a point purported to be an angle point in the Westerly Right-of-way of Poplar Avenue; thence S78°41'49"W along a line parallel to and 0.34 feet South of an existing fence line purported to be the property line between Lots 12 and 13 of said Block 3, 115.20 feet (recorded as 85.00 feet) to the Point of Beginning. The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 28, 2000
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE
CALL: 248-593-1303

Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200027052

-28-4-11-18-25

MORTGAGE SALE: Default having been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by TAMMY L. MYERS, whose address is 9700 Elizabeth Street, Grayling, Michigan, 49738, to THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting through the Farmers Home Administration (now known as Rural Development), United States Department of Agriculture, with its District Office being located at 240 W. Wright Street, West Branch, Michigan, 48661, the Mortgagee, such Mortgage being dated December 16, 1994 and recorded December 16, 1994 in Liber 387 in Crawford County Records on Pages 530, 531, 532 and 533, and re-recorded November 19, 1997 in Liber 442, Crawford County Records on Pages 74, 75, 76 and 77 to correct liber number in property description, such Mortgage being given to secure a Promissory Note payable to the Government, and by reason of such default the Mortgagee elects to declare the entire unpaid amount of such Mortgage due and payable forthwith, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of SIXTY TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY AND 74/100 (\$62,330.74) DOLLARS, and no proceedings having been instituted at law or equity to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof, whereby the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative;

Now, Therefore, Notice is Hereby Given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and in pursuance of the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, the said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described or so much thereof as may be necessary, at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the front lobby of the County Building in the City of Grayling, County of Crawford, Michigan, that being the place of holding the Circuit Court in and for said County, on the 3rd day of January, 2001 at 10:00 a.m., local time, and said premises will be sold to pay the amount due as aforesaid on the Mortgage together with 8.0% interest, legal costs, attorneys' fees and also any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee does not pay on or prior to the date of said sale; which said premises described in said Mortgage are situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford and State of Michigan, and are described as: Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 37, 38, 39 and 40, Block 6, Fourth Addition to Portage Lake Park, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 01 of Plats, Page 22, Crawford County Records.

During the six months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed unless the property is abandoned, in which case the redemption shall be thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

For further information with regard to this foreclosure, contact USDA-Rural Development, 1501 Cass Street, Suite A, Traverse City, Michigan, 49684, telephone (231) 941-0951.

Dated: November 27, 2000
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting through the Farmers Home Administration (now Rural Development), United States Department of Agriculture, Mortgagee

Michael I. Conlon (P43954)
Running, Wise, Ford & Phillips, P.L.C.
326 E. State Street, P.O. Box 686
Traverse City, MI 49685-0686

-7-14-21-28

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE-Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Harry A. Thomson a single man (original mortgagors) to Citizens Bank f/k/a Grayling State Bank, a Michigan Corporation, Mortgagee, dated July 31, 1995 and recorded on August 9, 1995 in Liber 298, on Page 126, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THIRTY-FOUR

THE FACTS

Half of the people over the age of 40 have some type of disc abnormalities. Many people with neck pain have lost the normal forward curve in the neck. An X-ray may be all you need to indicate the underlying problems of the back and neck. Surgery may not be the only option for treatment of chronic pain. Estimates suggest 25% of the population have headaches right now. Sports injuries among children are sometimes overlooked which can cause problems later in life. Joint damage from repetitive motion can often be treated with chiropractic care.

Visit Your
Chiropractor Today!

Denholm Family Chiropractic, P.C.

403 N. 72 E.
Grayling
Mon - Fri
9 am to 6 pm
517-348-6600
888-Denholm
(800-445-4656)

ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE-Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Brian A. Shepherd married man and Colleen Shepherd his wife (original mortgagors) to Delta Funding Corporation, Mortgagee, dated May 25, 1999 and recorded on June 14, 1999 in Liber 483, on Page 485-496, Crawford County Records, Michigan, and re-recorded on August 2, 2000 in Liber 513, Page 627, Crawford County Records and was assigned by said mortgagee to the Bank One Trust Company N.A. f/k/a The First National Bank of Chicago, as Trustee, in Trust for the Registered Holders of Delta Funding Home Equity Loan Asset-backed Certificates, series 1999-2, C/O Delta Funding Corporation as Servicing Agent, Assignee by an assignment dated December 20, 1999, which was recorded on December 11, 2000, in Liber 524, on Page 453, Crawford County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY AND 85/100 DOLLARS (\$110,770.85), including interest at 9.750% per annum. Adjustable rate mortgage. Interest rate may change 6/1 of each year.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in the Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 AM, on February 7, 2001.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF GRAYLING, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Parcel E-2: Part of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 12, Town 26 North, Range 4 West, Grayling Township, Crawford County, Michigan. Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 12; thence South 89 degrees 44 minutes East (along the Southline of the Northeast 1/4 of Southwest 1/4 of said Section 12) 487.0 feet; thence North 2 degrees 01 minute East (along the Westerly right of way of Old Dam Road) 708.6 feet; thence North 89 degrees 07 minutes 30 seconds West 190.0 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing North 89 degrees 07 minutes 30 seconds West 150 feet; thence North 2 degrees 01 minute East 186.2 feet; thence South 89 degrees 07 minutes 30 seconds East 150 feet; thence South 2 degrees 01 minute West 186.2 feet to the point of beginning.

Together with an easement for driveway purposes over and across the North 30 feet of the following described parcel: Parcel "East-1", part of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 12, Town 26 North, Range 4 West, Grayling Township, Crawford County, Michigan; Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 12; thence South 89 degrees 44 minutes East (along South line of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 12), 487.0 feet; thence North 2 degrees 01 minute East (along the Westerly right-of-way of Old Dam Road) 708.6 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 89 degrees 07 minutes 30 seconds West 190 feet; thence North 2 degrees 01 minute East 186.2 feet; thence South 89 degrees 07 minutes 30 seconds East; 190 feet; thence South 2 degrees 01 minute West 186.2 feet to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 28, 2000
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE
CALL: 248-593-1310

Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200010056

-28-4-11-18-25

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT.

MORTGAGE SALE-Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Harry A. Thomson a single man (original mortgagors) to Citizens Bank f/k/a Grayling State Bank, a Michigan Corporation, Mortgagee, dated July 31, 1995 and recorded on August 9, 1995 in Liber 298, on Page 126, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of THIRTY-FOUR

THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR AND 98/100 DOLLARS (\$34,164.98), including interest at 8.250% per annum. Adjustable rate mortgage. Interest rate may change 9/1 and every 36 months thereafter.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in the Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 AM, on February 7, 2001.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF GRAYLING, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Being part of GRAYLING PARK, recorded in Liber 1 of plats, page 26, Crawford County records. Situated in part of Government Lot 4, Section 15, Town 26 North, Range 4 West, and in part of Government Lot 1, Section 15, Town 26 North, Range 4 West, all in Grayling Township, Crawford County, Michigan, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 15, T26N R4W. Thence N00°32'00"W along the East line of the plat of OAK ACRES PARK, recorded in Liber 1 of plats, page 49, Crawford County Records 657.84 feet (recorded as 658.00 feet) to the Northeast corner of said plat; thence S87°45'22"W (recorded as S87°48'00"W along the North line of OAK ACRES PARK and N89°14'W along the North line of GRAYLING PARK being the same line indicated as the South 1/16th line of said Section 15) 927.52 feet; thence S11°09'02"E 33.59 feet to a found 1/2" bar, being the monumented position of the Northwest corner of Block 3 of said plat of GRAYLING PARK; thence continuing S11°09'02"E along a line purported to be the East Right-of-way of North Portage Avenue 611.67 feet (recorded as S10°00'00"E 610.00 feet) to a point purported to be an angle point in the Easterly Right-of-way of North Portage Avenue; thence S38°41'06"E along a line purported to be the East Right-of-way of North Portage Avenue 19.88 feet (recorded as 25.5 feet) to a found 1/2" bar and cap purported to monument the position of the Northwest corner of Lot 13, Block 3 for a Point of Beginning; thence continuing S38°41'06"E 104.18 feet (recorded as 67.00 feet) to a found concrete monument purported to be the position of the Southeast corner of Block 3; thence N24°43'42"E along a line purported to be the Westerly Right-of-way of Poplar Avenue 114.39 feet (recorded as 106.5 feet to a set 1/2" X 18" steel bar and cap said bar set at a point purported to be an angle point in the Westerly Right-of-way of Poplar Avenue; thence S78°41'49"W along a line parallel to and 0.34 feet South of an existing fence line purported to be the property line between Lots 12 and 13 of said Block 3, 115.20 feet (recorded as 85.00 feet) to the Point of Beginning. The redemption period shall be 6 month(s) from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 28, 2000
FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE
CALL: 248-593-1303

Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
30150 Telegraph Road, Suite 100
Bingham Farms, MI 48025
File # 200027052

-28-4-11-18-25

FREDERIC TOWNSHIP REQUEST FOR ROADSIDE REFUSE SERVICE BIDS

The Frederic Township Board is requesting bids for roadside refuse service within Frederic Township. Bids are to be addressed to Michael Girard, Frederic Township, Refuse Bid P.O. Box 78 Frederic, MI 49733. Bids will be accepted no later than January 8, 2001. All bids will remain sealed until the January 9, 2001 regular township board meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. Bid specs. and route maps are available at the Frederic Township Office during regular office hours. 7564 County Road 612 Frederic, MI 49733 or call 517-348-8778 to have a copy mailed or faxed.

Frederic Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Sincerely,
Nancy Bindschattel
Township Clerk.

-21-28-4

Cat and Ferret licenses are now available for 2001 at the County Building. \$6 for neutered or spayed and \$10 for regular.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The County of Crawford is requesting bids on computer hardware needed for the administration of County financial records. All bids are to be sealed and submitted to the Controller on or before January 8th, 2001, 3:00 p.m. For details and project specifications contact Paul Compo at the County Building.

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to award the bid deemed to be in the best interest of Crawford County.

FEATURES

HOROSCOPES

For The Week Of December 31-6

Aries
March 21-April 20
It could be time to rethink your career choice. Realizing there is more to life than success and wealth could propel you to change. You may receive a gift with a hidden meaning. Be grateful.

Taurus
April 21-May 21
The dry spell in your social life may come to an end. Allow yourself to let go of things you can't control. Calm anxieties by going for a long walk. An unusual present could make you laugh long and hard.

Gemini
May 22-June 21
The world is your playground. Go out and use it. A friend with political aspirations may seek your help. If you are comfortable with the idea, you may find a new hobby.

Cancer
June 22-July 22
Let go and try to have some fun. A grumpy face may upset some people. You'll have to work hard to regain their trust. Remember all children like to receive gifts, particularly from their parents.

Leo
July 23-August 23
A remodeling project may get the creative juices flowing. Think bold colors. A stubborn streak could affect an important work relationship. If you remain calm, compromise is more likely.

Virgo
August 24-September 22
It doesn't appear that work-related travel will take a hiatus. You may need to reschedule a family visit. Knowing a little more about a superior could help initiate productive conversations.

Libra
September 23-October 23
Denial may create a negative attitude and keep you from moving forward—personally and professionally. Enjoy the simple pleasure of holiday music to help offset stress. Savor time with an elderly family member.

Scorpio
October 24-November 22
You are beginning an earnest search for inner peace. Develop a support system to help provide positive reinforcement. If you are committed to professional growth, your career will blossom.

Sagittarius
November 23-December 31
You could be faced with the most difficult choice you have ever had to make. Do not allow others to interfere in the decision-making process. A stranger may offer the best advice.

Capricorn
December 22-January 20
Devote yourself to the welfare of others, and your self-esteem may improve. Keep a lid on volatile emotions, particularly around loved ones. Your good sense of humor will rise to the occasion.

Aquarius
January 21-February 18
Take advantage of an opportunity to express your views. With facts to back up your statements, you may sway an adversary. Long-lasting happiness will not come from an outside source.

Pisces
February 19-March 20
Work hard to find a happy medium in an uncomfortable situation. If you look fear in the face, you may gain an unknown confidence. The art of using natural healing remedies fascinates you.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Apple Crumb Coffee Cake

Crumb Topping

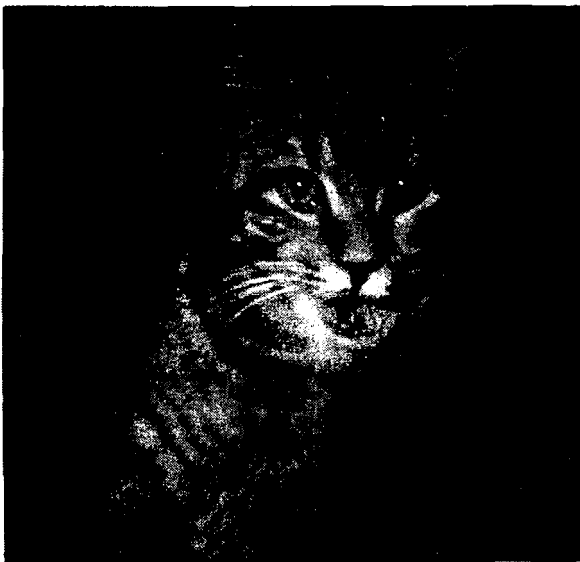
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 6 tablespoons butter, cut into 1/2 inch pieces
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Cake

- 8 tablespoons (1 stick) butter, softened
- 2 Apples, peeled, cored, and sliced
- 1 1/2 cups, plus 2 tablespoons, sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 large eggs
- 3/4 cup milk

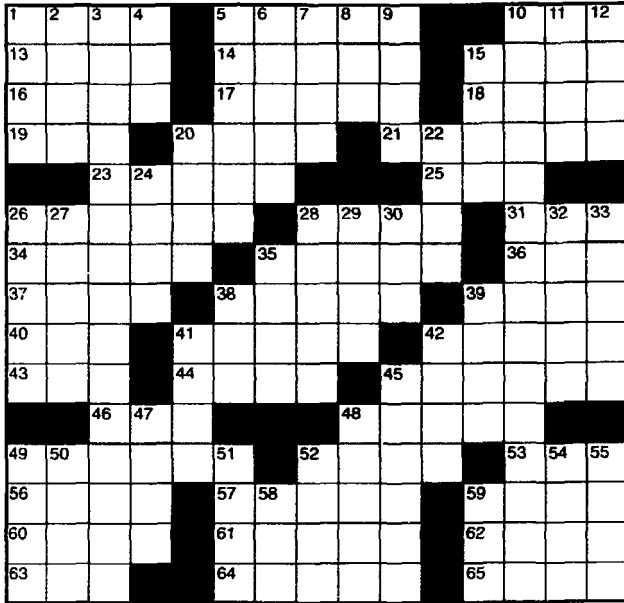
Prepare Crumb Topping: In medium

bowl, combine the flour, sugar and salt. With fingers, punch in butter until well combined and large clumps form. Stir in walnuts and set aside. To make Cake, melt 1 tablespoon butter in large skillet. Add apples, the 2 tablespoons sugar and cinnamon; cook, covered, over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until apples are tender-10 to 12 minutes. Set aside to cool. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour a 10-inch tube pan (preferably with removable bottom). In large bowl with electric mixer, beat remaining 7 tablespoons butter and 1 1/2 cups sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in vanilla. Stir together flour, baking powder, and salt. Add half the flour mixture and the eggs to butter mixture; mix well. Add the remaining flour, then the milk and mix well. Fold in the apple slices. Spoon batter evenly into prepared pan and top with crumb topping. Bake 50 to 60 minutes or until cake tester inserted in center of cake comes out clean. Cool in pan at least 15 minutes; invert cake to remove pan and cool completely.



HOME NEEDED - Ginger is approximately 1 year old. She is a dark ginger tabby female. To adopt any animal at the shelter, call 348-4117 for info.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1. Diva's delight
- 5. Pulse
- 10. Oriental prince
- 13. "Quicker ___ you can say Jack Robinson"
- 14. Overgrown
- 15. River boat
- 16. Verdi opera
- 17. Church official
- 18. Scorch
- 19. Judge Bean
- 20. ___ up (enlivens)
- 21. ___ beloved
- 23. Proton donors
- 25. Oriental sash
- 26. Yearly record
- 28. Benefit
- 31. Diocese
- 34. Part of a Spanish family tree
- 35. Zeniths
- 36. Malay coin
- 37. Ending for kitchen or major
- 38. Weigh heavily upon
- 39. Mixture of smoke and fog
- 40. Certain degree
- 41. Vaulted
- 42. Shovel
- 43. Hair coloring
- 44. What a muscle shirt exposes
- 45. Part of a boilermaker

- 46. Riviera acquisition
- 48. French white wine word
- 49. Labor walkout
- 52. Cabbage concoction
- 53. Hirt and Pacino
- 56. Bory herring
- 57. Tribal symbol
- 59. Place for a bowsprit
- 60. "My Heart Belongs ___" (Streisand hit)

- 20. Jumble
- 22. Seeming eternities
- 24. Show concern
- 26. Modify
- 27. Smartly dressed
- 28. Traffic sounds
- 29. Malt kiln
- 30. Gives the nod
- 32. Comrade
- 33. Avid
- 35. Bristol buggy
- 38. ___ annum
- 39. Spread
- 41. Long and thin
- 42. Pygmalion playwright
- 45. Grips
- 47. Nurse's ___
- 48. Sap
- 49. Paris-to-NYC jets
- 50. Biblical pronoun
- 51. Drop acid?
- 52. English money (abbr.)
- 54. Anderson of "WKRP"
- 55. ___ meet
- 58. Smelted material
- 59. Big Bird's network

DOWN

- 1. Top banana
- 2. Midwest state
- 3. 1955 Disney film (4 wds.)
- 4. Not ___ dare (2 wds.)
- 5. Scottish woolens
- 6. Assist
- 7. Bravest enemies
- 8. Homage
- 9. Operation Deep Freeze commander
- 10. Scrooge's story (3 wds.)
- 11. Objective
- 12. Wrong
- 15. Hoffa enemy

For Entertainment Purposes Only

ANSWERS IN CLASSIFIEDS

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE

23 Years Ago
December 29, 1977

Jack B. Hull, Grayling, recently announced the sale of his Clark Super "100" gas station, corner of cedar and M-72 West, back to the Clark Oil Company in order to devote more time to his new business, House of Jacks, Michigan Avenue, downtown.

Quality education is "tops in priority" at the Frederic Elementary School; in its second year of operation at the new facility located "just a stone's throw" north of Grayling, the school is thriving under the leadership of its new principal David Hawkins.

Roger R. Kolb, a student at Michigan Technological University, achieved placement on the schools Dean's list; Robert is a junior majoring in electrical engineering, with a 4.0 grade average. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kolb.

Debbie Lobsinger won a \$100 gift certificate from Glen's Market as a result of a 3-week Headstart program fund-raiser campaign; Debbie's name was drawn at a regularly scheduled Headstart meeting, by Robert Mott.

The Great Lakes Fishery Laboratory's new research vessel "Grayling" arrived at its home port of Cheboygan on October 31 after a 2,200-mile voyage from its construction site at Mobile, Alabama, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced today.

A three bedroom home on five wooded acres located East of Grayling, large kitchen, range and refrigerator included, aluminum siding, carpet, storms and screens is advertised selling at \$29,500. Plus a one year warranty.

Bridget Hoffman of S. Lyons and Mike and John Hoffman spent Christmas with their parents, Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Hoffman; the boys are on their Christmas break from CMU.

46 Years Ago
December 30, 1954

Mr. and Mrs. M.J. Alef and daughter of Detroit spent the holidays visiting their son and family, the John Alefs.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cinciala and family left Friday to spend the holidays in Bay City visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Gatz and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Sven Madsen and family of Gaylord, and Mr. and Mrs. Whitey Madsen and family spent Christmas Eve with the Norman Madsens.

Mr. and Mrs. Hazen Hatfield and family of Kawkawlin arrived Christmas Eve to spend the holidays visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Berry, Sr. They also visited his parents Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hatfield, Sr.

Last Saturday evening the Student Council sponsored a dance for the students at the school for the benefit of the Al Mathews whose home burned recently; Richard Klein, Marilyn Millikin and Eddie Holtcamp donated the music and several ladies donated cakes.

On Thursday morning the Junior Class presented Dickens' "Christmas Carol" to the students at the school; the play was directed by Wesley Kumpula and Miss Wanda Mikrut had charge of the costuming. See the Cotton and Rose Bowl football games over WPBN, Traverse City next Saturday, Dial

2476 for immediate delivery and installation. You can see it better with a Philco Big Screen television form Moshier Refrigeration.

Sunday guests of the Sam Collens family were Mr. and Mrs. George Winn of Clare arriving to celebrate Christmas.

69 Years Ago
December 31, 1931

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Flowers are spending the holidays visiting relatives and friends in Chicago and Madison, Wisconsin. Grant Thompson is taking Mr. Flowers' place in the Western Union Telegraph office during his absence.

Mr. and Mrs. George Granger of Lansing visited at the homes of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Stephan and Mrs. Celia Granger over Christmas.

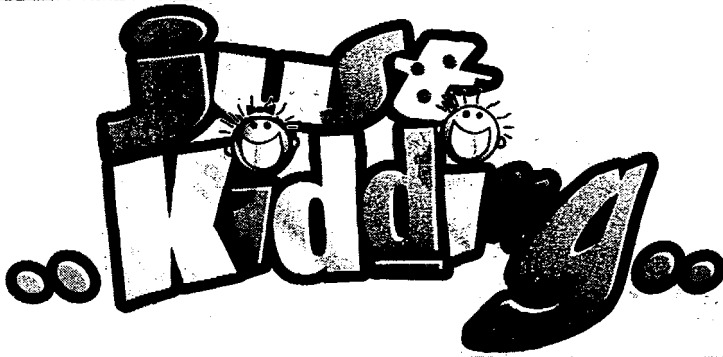
92 Years Ago
December 31, 1908

Probate Judge Batterson passed his 64th birthday last Monday, as young as most men at 50.

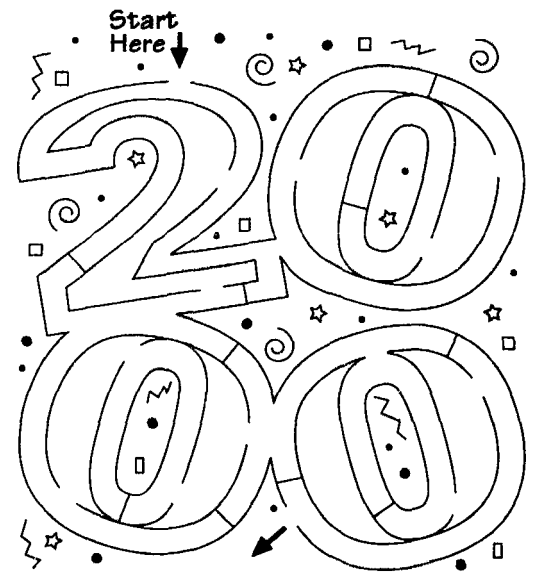
The mercury touched zero Tuesday morning at daylight and at sundown was 32 degrees above, reaching 35 degrees in the night with high winds and a good shower. Rather a sharp change.

Frank Canfield spent a Christmas hour with the family of C.T. Jerome, between trains returning to West Branch to eat with his wife.

Dedication of the new Danish Hall takes place Wednesday evening, January 6, 1909; Reverend Kildegaard of Muskegon and Reverend Nebleman are expected for the occasion.



MAZE



SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

- AMERICAN BLUE CHEESE CHEDDAR
- COLBY JACK LIMBURGER
- MOZZARELLA MUNSTER PARMESAN SWISS

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

ERYPTIBOPL
CSDACOLBYI
HKARFSUJLM
ECZMBWENMB
DAMERICANU
DJISOSHPLR
AYTARSEEWG
RGFNDSEAQE
HLCMUNSTER
MOZZARELLA

WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling

Date	H	L	8a.m.
12/20	17	7	13
12/21	18	4	10
12/22	22	10	14
12/23	25	14	18
12/24	23	14	18
12/25	22	11	15
12/26	19	7	14

Extended Forecast

(Courtesy of the U.S. Excite Weather)
Wednesday- Chilly, More clouds than sun. High 21 Low 10.
Thursday- Chilly, Overcast. High 25 Low 13.
Friday- Chilly, Overcast, Snow Showers. High 25 Low 17.
Saturday- Snowy. High 24 Low 9

ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Classifieds must be paid for in advance

Display Advertising Rate - \$6.00 per column inch
 Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday
 Classifieds by the word rate - \$4.20 for 15 words or less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:
www.townnews.com/avalanche/
 Classified by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday

1. Real Estate

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN PROPERTIES www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99t/f/1)

FIX UP SPECIAL Three bedroom home on 3.5 acres, across from state land, large garage, other out building, on well maintained road, close to expressway, golf courses, beautiful area. \$49,900. Possible land contract. Leave message 517-348-8893. (12/21/00t/f/1)

DEER HUNTER looking for wooded property to buy. Direct responses to: Deer Hunter, P.O. Box 159, Essexville, MI 48732 or phone 517-894-5791. (-28-4/1)

NICE FOUR BEDROOM Two bath home off Stephan Bridge Rd. Jacuzzi in master bedroom. 2 1/2 acres, owner relocated. \$79,900, reduced \$76,500. Good family home or excellent hunting, fishing, skiing, snowmobiling for group. Phone or fax Hamrick Real Estate Co., P.C. 517-348-5433; evenings 517-348-8336. (12/21/00t/f/1)

GRAYLING HOME Three bedroom, two car garage. Newly remodeled, nice neighborhood, large lot. Price reduced to \$72,900. 517-732-6152. (-21-28-4-11/1)

GOLF COURSE BUILDING LOTS for sale. Lifetime golf and ski memberships included. All lots are one to two acres. \$29,000 to \$49,000. Skyline Ski and Country Club. 517-275-5445 (4/20/00t/f/1)

1. Real Estate

COMMERCIAL BUILDING for sale or lease in Grayling on north I-75 Business Loop. 3,600 sq. ft. office and warehouse space. Natural gas. Single phase electric. Ask for Jerry. 517-275-5445. (10/26/00t/f/1)

2. For Rent

MAKE ARBOR COURT APARTMENTS your new home. Large two bedroom apartments. Maximum income level of \$18,900 for two person household. Rent based on 30% of gross monthly income. Barrier free unit available. Call Sande 517-366-4475 or Mary Ann 888-576-6468 for more information. Equal Housing Opportunity. (9/16/99t/f/2)

OFFICE SPACE Behind Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty. \$550 a month. Call Ron at 517-348-6761, or Laurie at 517-348-6481. (10/12/00t/f/2)

SMALL TWO BEDROOM near Lake Margrethe. \$435 month plus deposit and utilities. Available now. 231-826-4191. (12/7/00t/f/2)

TWO BEDROOM HOME—almost new and really nice, two car garage, quiet neighborhood, west of Grayling, access to Manistee River. No pets. \$575 a month plus deposit, references. Leave message 517-348-8893. (12/21/00t/f/2)

2. For Rent

APARTMENTS FOR RENT Village of Roscommon (duplex) (2) two bedroom with one car garages at \$550 month; (Tri-plex) (2) two bedroom at \$475 per month, (1) one bedroom at \$375 per month) plus security deposit. Does not include utilities. Includes snow removal and mowing. All five units are available December 1st. Call M-F, 9-5, 517-275-5112 (ask for Greg). (-30-7-14-21-28-4/2)

LARGE ONE BEDROOM Upper apartment in town, very clean. \$295 plus deposit and references, no pets. 517-348-6552. (-21-28/2)

NICE, CLEAN TWO BEDROOM mobile with garage washer/dryer and appliances. \$400 a month plus deposit, no pets. 517-348-2418. (-28/2)

MOBILE HOME Very clean older two bedroom. Newer paint and carpet in wooded setting at 1004 N. Old US 27, two miles south of Waters. Reduced to \$415 per month plus \$300 security and utilities, no pets. Toll free 877-227-6976 or weekend and holidays at 231-526-5211. (12/21/00t/f/2)

SALE BY OWNER COMMERCIAL BUILDING

on I-75 Bus. Loop, 1750 sq. ft., HVAC, 220 3 phase, 2 restrooms. Presently a restaurant. Call 517-422-4681

2. For Rent

7,200 SQ. FT WAREHOUSE available for rent or lease. Will rent all or part. Fenced in yard. 14 ft. garage door with opener and 18 ft. ceilings. Clean. Located in Houghton Lake on a Class A road. Contact Jim at 517-240-3491. (-14-21-28-4/2)

TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT No smoking, no pets. \$475 month plus. 517-348-4840. (-14-21-28-4/2)

ONE BEDROOM CABINS Kitchen and living room combination with utilities. \$300 and up. Call evenings. 517-826-1206; 517-619-2229. (-7-14-21-28/2)

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME for rent. 517-348-8691. (-28-4/2)

CABIN FOR RENT AuSable River. Sleeps four. Call 517-348-8350. (12/7/00t/f/2)

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2. For Rent

LAKE MARGRETHE ACCESS Three bedroom, two bath, 2 1/2 car garage, furnished, no pets, security deposit. \$600 per month. 517-348-5588. (-21-28-4/2)

2. For Rent

A ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD can always be found in the Avalanche Real Estate Classifieds 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling - (517) 348-6811

REAL ESTATE FORECLOSURE SALE

County Building

Wed., January 3, 2001 at 10 a.m.

Address: 9700 Elizabeth St. • Grayling, MI 49738
 Minimum Bid: \$24,910 + \$1.00 • 3 bedrooms, 1 bath,
 Redemption Period: six (6) months

Offer must be in form of certified check or money order the day of the sale.
 Equal Housing Opportunity

For information contact Rural Development at:

USDA Rural Development

240 W. Wright St.

West Branch, MI 48661

(517) 345-5470 • Fax: (517) 345-4010



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CHARLENE SCHEER
 Broker • Owner
 Valuation Specialist
 CRS GRI GRS ABR



CAPE COD ON SECLUDED 20 ACRES. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, den/office, oak kitchen cabinets with ceramic counter tops, large pantry, 2 car attached garage, full basement with walkout, garden area, deck, nicely landscaped. \$182,500 CS-1214



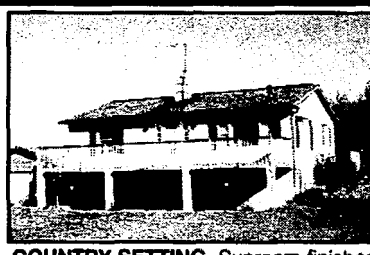
ALMOST TOTALLY NEW, 2 bedroom, 1 bath home located in quiet residential area with country atmosphere. 32 feet of kitchen-living room area, beautiful oak cabinets, immediate occupancy. New 2 car garage, large storage shed and private access to Manistee River. Only \$72,500 CS-1225



SECLUDED WATERFRONT ACREAGE. 40 acres on Big Creek adjoining Huron National Forest on 2 sides. Approximately 350' on the West Branch of Big Creek. Foot bridge across Trout Stream. Authentic log home offers 4 bedrooms, hardwood and carpeted flooring, screened in covered porch. Very well preserved log home. Must see to appreciate. Very attractive to outdoor enthusiast. \$250,000 CS-1236



CHARMING LOG HOME 1 block to Lake Margrethe public access. 2 bedroom, 1 bath is very cozy and shows nice. Full log home with enclosed front porch. 2 lots. Well new in 1996. Septic cleaned in 1996. CS-1253 \$41,000



COUNTRY SETTING. Sunroom finished in Cedar, skylight and doorwall onto rear 13 x 19 deck. Finished walkout basement with family room, office, bedrooms. Beautiful 2.5 acres with large front / rear yard. Heated garage. Priced Right! Immediate Occupancy. Hot tub is negotiable. \$99,900 CH-1240



222' FEET ON THE AUSABLE RIVER. This ranch home is on a private street with a very serene setting. Some of the amenities include two fireplaces, four bedrooms, one and one half baths and a beautiful view from most of the rooms. Family room with doorwall out onto patio. Blacktop circle drive amongst mature hardwoods. 1/3 ownership in lots 8, 9 & 10 across river to insure privacy. \$199,000 CH-1203



BEAUTIFUL RANCH HOME CLOSE TO LAKE MARGRETHE. Snowmobile trails and state land across the road. 1,472 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, recessed lighting, vaulted ceiling, six panel pine doors, central vacuum, water softener and Anderson windows. Exterior features include beautiful landscaped yard, blacktop drive, hot tub, extensive decking, 6-zoned sprinkling system. 32x40 garage with two eight foot overhead doors. Swimming pool, freezer, washer and dryer are negotiable. \$167,500 CH-1167



Secluded home on 10 acres in a country setting adjoining State Land and close to AuSable River. 1,800 s.f., 4 B/R home, fireplace with Pellet stove insert, attached 2 car garage. Updated kitchen cabinets, flooring and bathroom. \$61,900 CH-1257

*The following are the only statements approved by RE/MAX International regarding the results of the Arthur Anderson Audit of 1997 RE/MAX real estate transactions.

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SALES TEAM

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Coldwell Banker Cornell Realty consistently delivers that highest level of service to our clients and customers. We consider selling your home and property a "partnership" and we work together with you to not just list your home, but to sell your home!



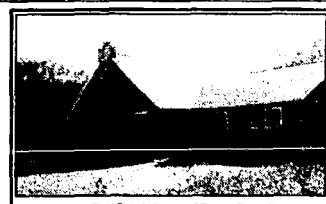
3 BDR HOME ON AUSABLE RIVER—this home offers exceptional views of the river with 166' frontage, master suite w/garden tub, 3 B/R, 2 bath, family room, cedar, sea room, whirlpool, fireplace, extensive decking w/look at the rivers edge, and attached garage! MLS#4070 \$139,900



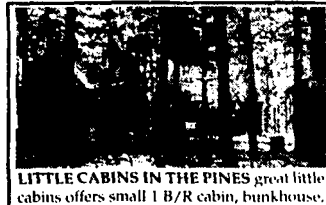
NEAT & CLEAN HOME ON 15 ACRES—this 2 bedroom home has been very well cared for and it shows. Located in a great area for hunting and fishing located only 1.5 miles from the AuSable River. 24 x 24 garage! MLS# 3790 \$75,000



AFFORDABLE MOBILE HOME—Here is the perfect vacation get-away situated on one acre. New furnace and well maintained with a 8 x 12 deck. MLS# 3520 \$22,000



NATURAL PINE LOG HOME on Fox Run golf course. Second story great-room, trapezoid glass, stone fireplace, Berber carpet, central air, patio, irrigation system, landscaping, beautiful view of 12 fairway. MLS#93897 \$199,000



LITTLE CABINS IN THE PINES great little cabins offers small 1 B/R cabin, bunkhouse, and cooking pavilion. Also includes AuSable Woods association amenities including clubhouse with pool, river access, picnic area and road maintenance. MLS# 3147 \$21,000



RENTALS/EFFICIENCY UNITS—seven units on 5.98 acres offering room to expand. 5 Units in one building and 2 in second. Property has 2 wells and 3 septic systems. MLS #489 \$169,900



RESTAURANT/MEAT MARKET great location with plenty of parking available. All equipment necessary to operate restaurant. Meat market has separate utilities or could be opened up for one unit. EXCELLENT LOCATION! MLS# 3088 \$350,000



MOBILE HOME ON 20 ACRES—Don't miss this nice mobile home with all the amenities and seclusion. Located near Lovells and offers 2 decks, newer windows & pump, 8 x 12 wood shed, 2nd floor mobile, complete with own well and electric. Near North Branch, State Land, Lakes and CRV trails. MLS# 3288 \$57,900



VERY WELL MAINTAINED 3 bedroom home was built in 1996. Amenities include 2 baths, 20 x 24 attached garage, 14 x 14 deck, vinyl siding and appliances. Very private setting! #MLS #3907 \$94,900

Ask about our home warranty programs, we have several to choose from to cover both buyers and sellers!

3. Employment

WORK FROM HOME! FT/PT. Anyone can do this! Get the facts. www.NoCommute.pays2ask.com Toll-free 1-866-365-0115. (-21-28/3)

OFFICE CLEANERS NEEDED P-T evenings. Supervisory position also available. Great pay and incentives. Call Cleaner One, Inc. 231-585-6661 (-28/3)

2. For Rent

CABIN #6, STUDIO UNIT

Cabin located at 11010 N. Old U.S. 27, south of Waters. \$375 per month, plus \$150 security deposit. Furnished, includes all utilities, no pets. Weekdays toll free 877-227-6976 or weekend 231-526-5211

3. Employment

Help Wanted

Part time position to work in yard/driver. Approximately 25 hours per week. Must be at least 18 with a valid drivers license. Apply at DuBois Lumber.

3. Employment

BIG BUCK Brewery & Steakhouse is hiring for all positions. We offer excellent wages with benefits and year around employment. Apply Mon.-Fri. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. 550 S. Wisconsin, Gaylord. (8/3/00/73)

ATTN: NEEDED 37 MOTHERS and Others to work from home \$982-\$5,947/month pt/ft. 800-591-9628. www.eperfectyou.com (-28-4-11/3)

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RN'S, LPN'S NEEDED Part time/full time, first and second shifts. Competitive wages, benefit package and 401K available. Please send resume to King Nursing Centre, P.O. Box 397, Houghton Lake, MI 48629, or call 517-422-5153. (-28-4/3)

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\$\$\$ 800-467-6345 \$\$\$
www.roehl.net

3. Employment

NOTICE OF OPEN POSITION Job Title: Instructional Title 1 Paraprofessional. Qualifications: High school graduate, achieve satisfactory score on MEAP test, and experience with and/or knowledge of middle school age children preferred. Contact: Paul B. Lerg, Assistant Superintendent, Crawford AuSable School, 403 Michigan Avenue, Grayling, MI 49738. Deadline: 4 p.m. December 29, 2000. Crawford AuSable School District, equal opportunity/affirmative action statement. (-21-28/3)

NOTICE OF OPEN POSITION Posting Date: December 13, 2000. Position: Custodian: Time split between Grayling Middle and Frederic Elementary Schools. Qualifications: Ability to pass the MEAP test; high school diploma. Additional information available at 403 Michigan Avenue. Apply To: Paul B. Lerg, Assistant Superintendent, Crawford AuSable School, 403 Michigan Avenue, Grayling, MI 49738. Deadline: 4 p.m., December 29, 2000. Crawford AuSable School District, equal opportunity/affirmative action statement. (-21-28/3)

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED PART-TIME Apply in person at the Woodland Motel in Grayling. (-21-28/3)

3. Employment

WANTED Experienced truck driver for short doubles self-loader log truck. Must be self motivated. Willing to train the right person. Benefits include health insurance, employer matching 401 (k) and IRC 125 plan. Resume or letter detailing work history may be faxed to 517-356-3628, or call Chris at Michigan Wood Carriers at 517-356-3448. EOE (-14-21-28-4/3)

OWN A COMPUTER? E-Commerce Biz from home. \$1,500 to \$7,000 P/T, F/T. Free E-Book. www.Fromhomebiz.com (-7-14-21-28/3)

NEEDED Part-time language trainers for Winter 2001 semester beginning January 2001. No teaching experience necessary. Only native speakers of German and Spanish need apply. For more information, please call Tatiana Puchkova at Kirtland Community College, 517-275-5000, ext. 394. Kirtland Community College is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer. (-21-28/3)

ATTENTION: WORK FROM HOME! \$500-\$2,500/month PT: \$3000-\$7,000/month FT. Free Booklet 800-657-0112. www.liveyourdreamscentral.com. (-28-4-11/3)

GROWING BUSINESS NEEDS HELP Work from home. Mail order/E-Commerce \$522 plus week PT. \$1,000-\$4,000 week FT. www.dare2thrive.com 262-808-7793. (-14-21-28/3)

3. Employment

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST/ Medical Lab Technician. Mercy Hospital Grayling is seeking experienced staff for new positions in our laboratory. We are looking for Medical Technologist/MLT (Bachelor's Degree) or a Medical Lab Technician (Associate Degrees). Some relevant experience and computer skills are preferred. Qualified persons please contact: Mercy Hospital Human Resources, 1100 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738. Phone 517-348-0528; Fax 517-348-0485. E-mail feldmaa@trinity-health.org (-28/3)

REGISTERED NURSES Extended Care Facility. Mercy Hospital Grayling is seeking Registered Nurses for full or part time positions at our extended care facility. Mercy Manor is known for the quality of care that it provides to our residents. Positions are on afternoons or midnights. We offer a competitive salary and an excellent fringe benefit package including Afternoon Shift Differential of \$.75 and a \$2 per hour Midnight Shift Differential. Interested persons please contact Human Resources, Mercy Hospital, 1100 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738. Phone number 517-348-0528; Fax 517-348-0485. (-28/3)

COOK/DIETARY AIDE Mercy Hospital, Grayling is seeking an experienced institutional cook to assume a full-time (32 Hrs. per week) position in our Food Services Department, the person filling this position will function sometimes as a cook and sometimes as a dietary aide. Responsibilities include preparation of food and monitoring of supplies. High school graduate or equivalent, knowledge of applicable laws and standards relative to institutional food preparation is required. We offer competitive rate and excellent fringe benefit package. Interested persons please contact: Human Resources, Mercy Hospital, 1100 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738. Phone 517-348-0528; Fax 517-348-0485. (-28/3)

CLINICAL NURSING SUPERVISOR Mercy Hospital Grayling is seeking a RN for a relief position as a Clinical Nursing Supervisor, but may with other duties to create a full time or part time position. Person will be responsible for handling patient care issues when Clinical Directors are not present. Current Michigan RN license (BSN preferred) and 3-5 Nursing experience. Supervisory or leadership experience preferred. We offer a competitive wages and the opportunity to enhance your professional growth by becoming a leader in a caring clinical setting. Interested persons please contact: Human Resources, Mercy Hospital Grayling, 1100 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738. Phone 517-348-0528; Fax 517-348-0485. (-28/3)

POSITIONS AVAILABLE Full and part time. Peterson Saw, Grayling. 517-348-5957. 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (-21-28/3)

Management Trainee

Large financial corporation willing to invest in one or two individuals to join our management development program in Grayling. Upon completion, you will be offered full management within our company. Qualifying trainees earn in excess of \$60,000. You must be a college graduate or have 1-2 years experience, have management ability and be prepared to receive intensive training. For an interview, call Shannon at (231) 947-4390. RA9099

5. For Sale

Broken Arrow Log Products

Winter hours
10-5 Tues-Sat

Cedar Log Furniture
Beds, Tables, Chairs,
Dressers, Handmade
products, Old Us 27
North Near Ball Field

517-344-0333

3. Employment

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS Mercy Hospital Grayling is seeking Certified Nurse Assistants for Part-time positions in our extended care facility. Must have current Nursing Assistant Certification. We offer competitive wages and an excellent fringe benefit package. Interested persons please contact Human Resources: Mercy Hospital, 1100 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling, MI 49738. Phone 517-348-0528; Fax 517-348-0485. (-28/3)

AUTO TECHNICIAN Medium duty auto technician. Requires state certification tools. Excellent pay and fringe benefits. Friendly, professional dealership working environment. Plenty of work available. Monday thru Friday. Call Dave Petrie, Service Manager at Scheer Motors in Grayling, Michigan. 517-348-5451 for interview appointment. (12/14/00/1/3)

KARAOKE WITH THE Spikes Girls Sunday New Years Eve 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Spikes Keg O'Nails. Party favors and drink specials. (-28/3)

LEGAL SECRETARY full time position. Experienced preferred. Salary commensurate with skills. Benefits available. Send resume to Bloomquist & Associates, P.O. Box 708, Grayling, MI 49738. (-28-4/3)

4. Services Offered

I CHARGE by the job, not by the hour. Cutting wood, stacking wood, shoveling snow off sidewalks, off roofs, off trailers, off houses, off garages, off sheds, and out of driveways, etc. 517-348-5081. (-14-21-28/4)

ROOF SNOW REMOVAL Dependable and reasonable. Call 517-348-6377. Will return messages promptly. (-28-4/4)

NORTHERN FLOOR INSTALLATIONS Professional Ceramic Tile and Carpet Installation, Quality Installation at a low price. For free estimate call 517-348-8484, (ask for Dan). (-21-28-4-11/4)

LICENSED DAYCARE PROVIDER has immediate openings for two years and older. Meals and snacks provided. Call 517-348-3156. (-28-4/4)

LICENSED DAYCARE Days, evenings, weekends. Food program. Fun and healthy care while you're away. 517-348-5560. (-28-4/4)

QUALITY PET GROOMING Northern Tails, 1205 Michigan Ave., (across from Mercy Hospital). Hours: Monday to Saturday, 8 to 5. Gift certificates, call for appointment. 517-344-9999. (-14-21-28/4)

ROOFS AND WALKS SHOVELED Phone 517-348-2914 for estimate. (-14-21-28-4/4)

ROOF, SNOW REMOVABLE Quality work, reasonable prices. 15 years experience. Call for estimates 517-348-9703 or 517-348-8440. (12/28/00/1/4)

4. Services Offered

COMPLETE SEPTIC TANK INSTALLATION & CLEANING
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348-8411
-10/11/04

CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY
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T	H	A	N	A	E	L	D	E	R	S	C	O
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S	U	P										

1. Real Estate

Century 21 River Country Real Estate
See all of our listings at:
www.century21grayling.com



WHAT A WONDERFUL COUNTRY SETTING with a gorgeous 3 bedroom ranch home. Mettulously kept, open and airy atmosphere, plus a completely remodeled kitchen. Situated on 2 acres and between Higgins Lake & Grayling. New carpeting, Pergo kitchen floor, totally remodeled baths, and extremely well maintained inside and out. Blacktop driveway, heated garage & much more! #4709 \$129,900 Ask for Debbie Bondar!



Home includes, gas fireplace, washer & dryer, 2 stoves, 2 refrigerators, dishwasher, all drwall interior with oak trim, cabinets & doors (incl. basement); extensive decking, hot tub built into deck. Property features include: 2x50 garage with pass thru doors, steel tower, landscaping, mountains, 2 stocked meadows with built in benches, security lighting, length of driveway, wooded perimeter, bordering state land with trails stretching for miles. Extras include additional single garage, storage shed, 22' sq ft. 2 bedroom cabin "nest down" include stove & refrigerator. So much for so little! #4666 \$269,000 Ask for Chelle Warner!



Uniquely designed home on 1.7 acres. Home has 2 fireplaces, 2+ car attached garage, 12x36 additional attached pole barn, recessed 2 track lighting, ceiling fans, tongue & groove ceiling in family room, 2 stocked ponds & much more. #4693 \$129,900 Ask for Bob Pollack!



Clean and bright 3 bedroom home with full basement located close to town in Clough's Highland Acres Subdivision. New drain field in 1998. Freshly painted interior, large fenced yard, large 12x10 shed. Immediate occupancy! #4682



Secluded family getaway with 4.75 acres on a county maintained road. PProperty includes a two car garage and a lean-to with beautiful Majestic Pines filling the property. #4689 \$49,900 Ask for Scott Hanson!



Nice 3 bedroom home with full basement. 3 bedroom, 1 bath older newer home located in Grayling Township. Home is located on a paved county maintained road and offers a full basement. This maintenance free home is perfect as a full time home or for a recreational getaway. #4652 \$64,500 Ask for Randall Hartley!

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Debbie BONDAR
CENTURY 21
RIVER COUNTRY REAL ESTATE

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Office 348-5474 • Home 348-1136

Connie Winans
Nicer maintained 2 bedroom mobile home located on a 4.25 acre parcel. Kitchen features a snack bar, and comes with range and refrigerator. 26x30 garage built in 1993 has electric and cement floor, built over roof on home in 1992, large 16x26 front deck, with very close access to State land and the AuSable River. Some furnishings to remain with sale. #4636 \$46,000 Ask for Connie Winans!

Century 21
River Country Real Estate • 2375 S. I-75 Bus. Loop (517) 348-5474

3. Employment

The Crawford County Library is accepting bids on janitorial service. Please submit bids to 100 S. James Street, Grayling, 49738 by January 8.

Prevention Coordinator for regional substance abuse coordinating agency. Full-time position that is responsible for developing plans for substance abuse prevention services, monitoring and evaluation of prevention services, and providing technical assistance. Must have two years substance abuse or other health prevention experience. Computer skills preferred. Minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in a Human Service/Nursing or educational related field. Master's degree preferred. Send resume to Northern Michigan Substance Abuse Services, P.O. Box 1278, Gaylord, MI 49734. EOE.

Early Deadlines for the Holidays!

Our office will be closed on New Year's Day, Monday, January 1st and reopen 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 2nd.

Deadlines to be included in the January 4, 2001 issue are:
Display ads- Thursday, Dec. 28th at 5 p.m.
News- Friday, Dec. 29th at noon
Classified word ads-Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, at noon.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Broken Arrow Log Products

Winter hours
10-5 Tues-Sat

Cedar Log Furniture
Beds, Tables, Chairs,
Dressers, Handmade
products, Old Us 27
North Near Ball Field

517-344-0333

4. Services Offered

PIANO TUNING AND REPAIRS Rogers Piano Service, Fairview, MI 48621. Over 20 years experience. (517) 848-2262. (-12-28/4)

ROOF, SNOW AND ICE removable will meet and beat any price. Free estimates, please call 517-348-5817, leave message or will be home after 6 p.m. (-28-4-11-18/4)

\$3.50 PITCHERS with any item ordered from the menu on Sundays at Skyline Ski & Country Club. Open at noon. 517-275-8987. (8/10/00t/4)

SKYLINE RESTAURANT DAILY SPECIALS Friday: Fish dinners \$5.99-\$7.99. Saturday: BBQ Ribs \$8.99 1/2 - \$11.99 full slab. Sunday - Wednesday: Buy one 15" two item pizza for \$11.99 and get the second one half price. Thursday: Prime Rib \$8.99 with soup, salad bar and potato. 517-275-5445. (9/14/00t/4)

WE INSTALL CERAMIC TILE Hardwood and laminate flooring, kitchen and bath remodeling, dry-wall, finish, carpentry. Tim 517-348-4535. (-21-28/4)

5. For Sale

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY ski boots, Salomon 3.1, size 40. Call 517-348-2751. (12/7/00t/5)

TWO YOUTH (GIRLS) Pre-teen multi-speed bicycles, very good condition, \$50 each, includes youth helmets. These bikes have been lonely since their owners took drivers ed. They may need a little oil and adjustments. Call 517-348-1429, after 6 p.m. (11/30/00t/5)

MIXED FIREWOOD Seasoned two years, \$45 per face cord delivered and stacked, 517-348-6340, leave message. Minimum two cord. (LR1/25/01/5)

TREADMILL, MANY OPTIONS Good condition, used very little. Call 517-348-2216. (-28/5)

THINK SLEDHEADS OF FRED-ERIC for all your snowmobile parts and accessory needs. Call 517-DIG-SNOW. (12/14/00t/5)

TORO SNOW BLOWER Push button, electric starter, smaller; easy light weight operating series, like brand new. \$130. 517-348-8211. (-28/5)

EXPERT SOFTWARE #1 Best Seller. Diet and Fitness for \$10. Take the guesswork out of dieting and nutrition. System Requirements: 486DX or higher. Microsoft Windows 95. VGA or SVGA. 4MB of Ram (8MB recommended). A CD-Rom drive. A hard drive with minimum Install: 1 MB (486SX or higher recommended). Full install: 12MB. A Windows supported mouse and printer. Optional sound card. Anyone interested please call Sandy at 517-348-2991 after 5. (10/26/00t/5)

ATOMIC 149 RIDER SKIS Salomon Series 3 bindings; RCJ Alpina, anatomic design, adult size 6 1/2 boot; and Scott 110 CM/44" poles. Like new, used less than a dozen times. New \$600, asking \$200. Call 517-348-2495 evenings and weekends. (11/30/00t/5)

QUALITY PET GROOMING Northern Tails, 1205 Michigan Ave., (across from Mercy Hospital). Hours: Monday to Saturday, 8 to 5. Gift certificates, call for appointment. 517-344-9999. (-14-21-28/5)

1996 36' COACHMEN Travel Trailer. Snowmobile trailer for two snowmobiles, snow plowing. 517-348-5275. (-7-14-21-28/5)

\$3.50 PITCHERS with any item ordered from the menu on Sundays at Skyline Ski & Country Club. Open at noon. 517-275-8987. (8/10/00t/5)

1995 SKIDOO SNOW MACHINE 583 Formula Z at \$2,500 or best offer. 517-348-9888. (-28-4-11-18-25-1/5)

11. Automotive

BANKRUPT, SLOW PAY, COLLECTIONS, CHARGE OFFS? SCHEER MOTORS NOW HAS A SPECIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENT TO HELP OUR CREDIT CHALLENGED CUSTOMERS. Call or stop by today and ask Deb for a confidential credit interview. (800) 968-8848 or (517) 348-5451. -13-11/11

5. For Sale

MICROSOFT ACCESS 97 Find answers and build faster solutions—across your office or the world. Microsoft Access 97 provides relational database power to give you the information you need to make better decisions. It pulls data from spreadsheets and other databases and makes it easy to find answers, share information over intranets and the Internet, and build faster business solutions. Requires CD-ROM Microsoft Windows NT or Windows 95. Comes with two manuals Getting Results and Building Applications. CD and manuals I'm selling for \$50. Anyone interested please call Sandy at 517-348-2991 after 5. (10/12/00t/5)

6. Wanted

A RELIABLE PERSON to care for two cats for six weeks. Starting January 14, no children. Call 517-348-7713. (-21-28/6)

WANTED Used firearms. Call 517-348-2914. (-14-21-28-4/6)

7. Miscellaneous

ANY PRE 1978 Bear Archery bows, arrows, quivers, catalogs, letters, lamps, magazine racks, trinkets, etc. For my own personal collection call Pete Koefas. 517-348-8627/ 1-800-848-1268. (9/28/00t/7)

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY at Skyline. Karoche reservations suggested 517-275-5445. (-28/8)

8. Announcements

HEIRLOOM ANTIQUE 100 E. Michigan Ave. Open Mon.-Thurs., Fri., Sat. 10-5, Sun. 12-3. (-28-4/8)

CASINO PACKAGE Award winning Days Inn Lakefront St. Ignace. Room for two at \$69.95 Sunday thru Friday or \$79.95 on Saturday and receive \$50 free in Kewadin Casino cash and more. Phone 800-732-9746. (10/26/00t/8)

RING SIZING, CHAIN REPAIR Watch battery replacement, Custom Designing, Pearl Stringing, etc. Quality Repair. Most Repairs Done By Next Day. 19 years experience. Goldsmith; Certified Gemologist. Darwin's Jewelry Repair. 517-344-1223. Located inside Steven's Family Circle, downtown Grayling. (-7-14-21-28-4-11/8)

GRAYLING HOLIDAY INN'S Speakeasy Saloon live entertainment Tuesday thru Saturday bands playing Dec. 20 - Dec. 23 Over Drive, Dec. 27 - Dec. 31 Crowd Pleasers, Jan. 3 - Jan. 6 Crowd Pleasers. (-21-28/8)

SOUP/SANDWICH/SALAD/DESERT luncheon. Thursday, January 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$4.50 per person. Take out available. Everyone welcome. Michelson United Methodist Church on Michigan Ave. (-28/8)

COME JOIN THE FUN at the Plaza Bar. Karaoke every Friday and Saturday night at 9 p.m. (5/18/00t/8)

8. Announcements

SAWMILL SERVES Fish and Steak Specials anytime, every day of the week. \$5.95 each. (1/27/00t/8)

SKYLINE RESTAURANT DAILY SPECIALS Friday: Fish dinners \$5.99-\$7.99. Saturday: BBQ Ribs \$8.99 1/2 - \$11.99 full slab. Sunday - Wednesday: Buy one 15" two item pizza for \$11.99 and get the second one half price. Thursday: Prime Rib \$8.99 with soup, salad bar and potato. 517-275-5445. (9/14/00t/8)

NEW YEARS EVE PARTY at Skyline. Karoche reservations suggested 517-275-5445. (-28/8)

STOP INTO THE SAWMILL for daily home made soup and sandwich special. (1/27/00t/8)

KARAOKE WITH THE Spikes Girls Sunday New Years Eve 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Spikes Keg O'Nails. Party favors and drink specials. (-28/8)

11. Automotive

FOR YOUR AUTO LOAN See your North Central Area Credit Union in Roscommon, Grayling, Houghton Lake and Standish. (-28/11)

11. Automotive

WANTING TO TRADE A '92 Thunderbird for 4 x 4 truck. 517-344-0612. (-28/11)

1995 CHEVY SILVERADO 4 X 4 142,000 miles. 3/4 ton on one ton chassis. trailer brakes. loaded. \$12,500 O.B.O. 517-821-4139. (-21-28-4/11)

'93 CHEVY LUMINA Seven passenger van. 3800 engine, good tires, high miles. \$2,390. 517-275-4126. (-14-21-28/11)

1996 CHEVY 3/4 TON 4x4 pickup with 7'6" Western Pro Plow power brakes, auto transmission, balance of five year—60,000 mile warranty. \$14,000 or best offer. 231-585-6129 or 231-585-6753. (-21-28/11)


DON'T LET THE COMING Winter catch you knee deep in snow without my 1993 Ford Bronco 4 x 4. Eddie Bauer Package comes fully loaded with power everything. Kept inside a garage, so it is in excellent condition. Super clean leather interior. \$8,950. Call 517-348-2083 to see it. (-21-28/11)

1998 CHEVY S-10 PICKUP 28,000 miles, Pioneer CD player still under manufactures warranty. \$11,000. Call 517-275-4641. (-28/11)

11. Automotive

1994 GRAND SV CARAVAN Automatic transmission (OD) seven passenger keyless entry, lighted ceiling console. Full power, safety lock system, tinted windows, new tires, new brakes. \$6,500. O.B.O. 517-348-9888 after 6 p.m. (-28-4-11-18-25-1/11)

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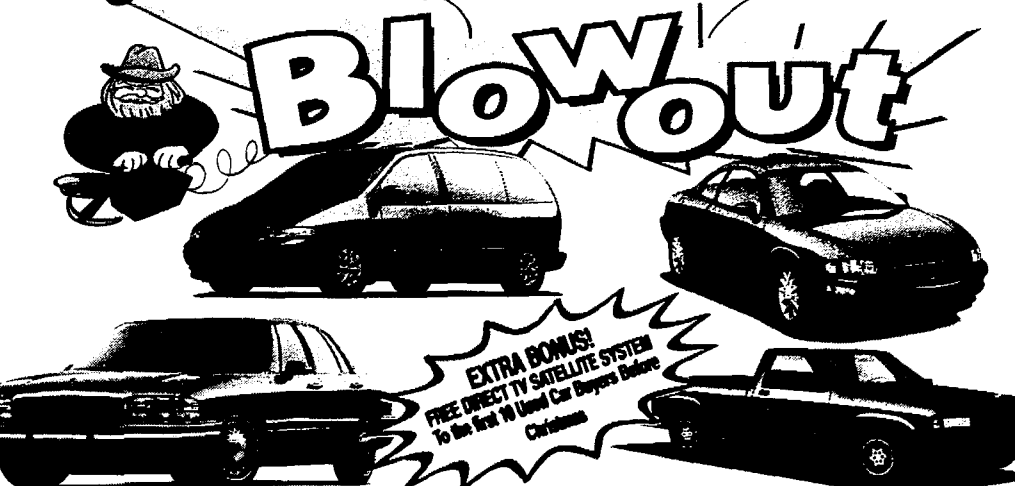
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11. Automotive

Huge End-Of-The-Year Used Car



2001 (2) Chrysler PT Cruisers - Believer it or not! We have one automatic and one stick shift. Air, CD, tilt, power windows & locks & the coolest ride going. People are waiting almost a year to get one of these. Stock #4420, 4421.

Was \$24,988 Now \$22,488.....End-of the year blowout \$21,488

2000 Chevrolet Impala - The hot new Impala that everyone wants and guess what? It's not \$25,000! All the right stuff! Stock #4439

Was \$17,988 Now \$17,488.....End-of the year blowout \$16,488

2000 Buick LeSabre Custom - 1 owner trade in! Neat as a pin and loaded just the way you like it! Several thousand less than brand new! Stock #17825-1

Was \$19,988 Now \$19,488.....End-of the year blowout \$18,988

1999 Chevrolet Cavalier 4 Dr. - Auto, air, great little car, excellent gas mileage. Stock #4440.

Was \$11,988 Now \$11,488.....End-of the year blowout \$9,988

1998 Buick Riviera - Supercharged V-6, power moon roof, leather, sharp as a tack! Stock #4440

Was \$17,988 Now \$17,488.....End-of the year blowout \$15,988

1998 Chevrolet Lumina - Beige, very nicely equipped & only 28,000 miles! Genuine Chevrolet. Stock #4400

Was \$14,988 Now \$14,488.....End-of the year blowout \$12,988

1998 Cadillac Catera - Loaded! Power moon roof, chrome wheels, leather, Bose CD, full power, traction control and much more! Stock #4365

Was \$17,988 Now \$17,488.....End-of the year blowout \$15,988

1997 Buick Park Avenue - Luxury at a very affordable price, leather, the works! Stock #4406

Was \$16,988 Now \$16,488.....End-of the year blowout \$15,988

1996 Olds Cutlass Supreme 4 Dr. - Loaded with leather, black on black, 24 valve V-6 engine. Real sharp! Stock #4382

Was \$11,988 Now \$11,488.....End-of the year blowout \$9,988

1995 Chevy Lumina - Nice clean car with only 80,000 miles. Lots of life left and a real bargain! Stock #4434-1

Was \$6,988 Now \$6,488.....End-of the year blowout \$5,488

1994 Chrysler LeBaron 4 Dr. - V-6, loaded and clean as a whistle! Cars like this won't last! Stock #17661-2

Was \$11,988 Now \$11,488.....End-of the year blowout \$4,488

1992 Cadillac Sedan DeVille - 59,000 actual miles and clean as a whistle! You can look for a long time and not find one like this! Stock #17760-1

Was \$8,988 Now \$8,488.....End-of the year blowout \$7,488

1995 Buick Park Avenue - Leather, loaded. You need to see this car! Stock #17759-1

Was \$11,988 Now \$11,488.....End-of the year blowout \$9,988

2000 Malibu - V-6, auto, air, power windows & locks, miles in low 20s. Stock #4466

Was \$15,488 Now \$14,988.....End-of the year blowout \$13,988

1996 Olds Cutlass - 6 cylinder, auto with very nice equipment in very good shape! Stock #4447

Was \$6,988 Now \$6,488.....End-of the year blowout \$4,988

TRUCKS & VANS

2000 Chevy Blazer 4 Dr. 4x4 - LT package with all the toys! Only 6,000 actual miles! A great buy! Stock #17619-1

Was \$22,988 Now \$22,488.....End-of the year blowout \$21,488

1999 Oldsmobile Silhouette GLS - Leather. The top of the line in GM minivans! This beauty has only 16,000 miles! Don't wait, this one will be parked in your neighbor's driveway! Stock #4472

Was \$21,988 Now \$21,488.....End-of the year blowout \$19,988

1998 Chevy S-10 Pickup 0 Regular cab, manual transmission. Great transportation when gas is \$1.60 per gallon! A great value! Stock #4471.

Was \$7,988 Now \$7,488.....End-of the year blowout \$6,988

2000 GMC Safari All Wheel Drive Van - Loaded, clean and only 16,000 miles! Was \$22,988 Now \$21,488.....End-of the year blowout \$19,988

1998 Chevy Blazer 4 Dr. 4x4 LS - Loaded with power seats, windows, locks, keyless remote, CD, and all the goodies! Only 31,000 miles!

Was \$17,988 Now \$17,488.....End-of the year blowout \$16,488

1998 Pontiac Trans Sport Minivan - Short wheel base. Very clean and affordable, nicely equipped! Stock #4487

Was \$13,988 Now \$13,488.....End-of the year blowout \$11,988

1998 Chevrolet Venture Ext. 4 Dr. - Loaded and neat as a pin! Light beige, beige cloth interior! You gotta see this one! Stock #4486

Was \$15,988 Now \$14,988.....End-of the year blowout \$13,488

1996 Chevrolet Suburban 4x4 Conversion - Leather, with all the options! A great price on this one! Stock #17222-1

Was \$14,988 Now \$14,488.....End-of the year blowout \$13,488

1993 Ford Aerostar - Nicely equipped, good condition! This one won't last. Stock #4484-1

Was \$3,988 Now \$3,488.....End-of the year blowout \$2,788

1999 GMC Jimmy SLT 4 Dr. 4x4 - Loaded with leather, power moon roof, CD, maxed out! Black with gold two tone. Great value! Stock #4408

Was \$20,988 Now \$20,488.....End-of the year blowout \$18,988

1999 Chevrolet Tahoe LT 4 Dr. 4x4 - Perfect! Loaded! Only 12,000 miles! White and gold two tone with beige leather! They don't get any nicer! Stock #4492

Was \$27,988 Now \$27,488.....End-of the year blowout \$25,988

1997 GMC Jimmy 4 Dr. 4x4 SLE - Gold two tone, very sharp with great equipment! This one won't be here long. Stock #4345

Was \$17,988 Now \$17,488.....End-of the year blowout \$15,988

1997 Chevrolet Venture Ext. 4 Dr. - Fully equipped and sharp! Don't spend \$30,000 on a new one! Stock #4488

Was \$13,988 Now \$13,488.....End-of the year blowout \$12,488

1999 Chevy Tahoe 4 Dr. 4x4 - "Ducks Unlimited" conversion. Awesome! Custom leather interior, TV/VCR, full power, maxed out! Stock #4457

Was \$24,988 Now \$24,488.....End-of the year blowout \$22,488

1997 Chevy Tahoe 4 Dr. 4x4 - V-8, really nice! Loaded LS model with cloth with a split bench 3 passenger front seat, low miles. Stock #4455

Was \$21,988 Now \$21,488.....End-of the year blowout \$19,988

1997 Dodge Grand Caravan SE - Very nice and equipped right! The right van at the right price! Stock #17513-1

Was \$13,488 Now \$12,988.....End-of the year blowout \$12,188

2000 Chevy S-10 Ext. Cab 4x4 - LS, 3 Dr., auto., V-6, tilt, cruise, windows, locks, stereo CD, thousands less than brand new! Stock #17591-1

Was \$18,988 Now \$18,488.....End-of the year blowout \$16,988

2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo - Black, 6 cyl., sharp! Don't pay \$35,000! Buy a used one for thousands less! Stock #4453

Was \$22,988 Now \$22,488.....End-of the year blowout \$20,488

1998 Chevy K1500 Ext Cab 4x4 271 - 3dr., 350 V-8, CD, full power, sharp! Stock #17722-1

Was \$20,988 Now \$20,488.....End-of the year blowout \$18,488

2000 Dodge Dakota SLT Club Cab 2-Wheel Drive - V-8, auto, loaded - great truck! Only 4,000 miles! Great deal for somebody out there! Stock #17177-1

Was \$18,988 Now \$18,488.....End-of the year blowout \$16,988

1999 Chevrolet Suburban 3/4 Ton 4x4 - What a trailer puller. If you pull anything heavy, you need to see this one. Stock #17644

Was \$26,988 Now \$25,988.....End-of the year blowout \$24,488

BUDGET CARS AND TRUCKS

1995 Ford Aspire Stock #17516-2 Was \$4,488.....End-of the year Blowout \$3,488

1994 Oldsmobile Cutlass 80,000 miles Was \$4,488.....End-of the year Blowout \$3,988

1994 Buick Century Was \$3,988.....End-of the year Blowout \$3,288

1999 Dodge Ram 50 Pickup Was \$1,988.....End-of the year Blowout \$888

1988 Plymouth Reliant Was \$788.....End-of the year Blowout \$488

1982 Ford Fairmont Runs Good Was \$588.....End-of the year Blowout \$788

The Direct TV Satellite System and a basic installation kit are included free to the first 10 used car customers who take delivery during our huge Used Car Blow-Out. Program choices are determined by the owner and are the responsibility of the owner. See salesperson for additional details.

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**11. Automotive****NOTICE**

The City of Grayling is selling a 1992 Chevrolet Caprice to the highest bidder. The vehicle can be seen in the parking lot of City Hall, 5688 M-72 West, Grayling, MI between the hours of 8:00-4:30, M-F. This vehicle is in need of restoration work and will be sold as is. Sealed bids will be accepted until 4:00 PM on Friday, January 5, 2001. We reserve the right to reject any and all bids.

Kay Ellen King
City Clerk

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- ** Last Paystub

**** Name, Address and Phone # of 6 References.**
Most should be relatives**

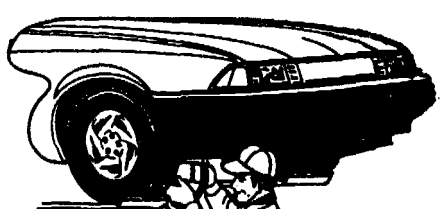
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Officials warn of used car frauds

by Jen-Shuan Lo
 Capital News Service

LANSING- As consumers nationwide complain about unwittingly buying "clocked" and totaled cars, federal and Michigan officials are urging consumers to check the history of any used car before buying it.

Consumers for Auto Reliability and Safety estimates that one out of nine of the 45 million used cars sold each year has a concealed history or an odometer that has been tampered with. More than three million vehicles have had their odometers rolled back, and more than a million damaged cars are repaired but deceptively sold as damage-free, the group claims.

The used car market has expanded and represented two-thirds of all vehicles sold and half value of combined vehicle market last year, according to ADT Automotive's market analysis.

Odometer tampering and putting a new title on a salvaged car usually occur before the wholesalers sell them in auto auctions where car dealers buy them to sell on retail lots.

Richard Morse, chief of the odometer fraud staff for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, said it's hard to crack down on odometer tamperers because they can operate and sell vehicles anywhere in the nation.

Missing documents and complex interstate investigations make convictions difficult.

Besides, it could take up to two years to pin down a case. "We're not dealing with normal crime. It's not like go to court and wait for conviction," Morse said.

Although many leads and consumer complaints arrive daily, the front-line federal unit has four investigators and can select only a relative small number of "big

cases," said Morse, who has fought odometer fraud for 22 years. "We target cross-state large 'clocking' rackets that involve over 2,000 or 3,000 cars."

Morse pointed out that the typical type of clocked cars are 2 or 3 years old with 50,000 to 60,000 miles rolled back.

Morse noted that although the number of cases holds steady, the magnitude of these cases is increasing.

Odometer fraud is one of the most profitable automotive crimes and maybe the hardest to discover, said Morse. He estimated that it costs consumers \$10 billion each year. "We're talking about big easy-making money."

Morse offers one remedy to preventing car fraud for Michigan consumers-take the car to a reliable mechanic for a thorough check. There would be obvious signs of wear and tear in a car with 30,000 miles rolled back."

William Burton, director of the Michigan Bureau of Automotive Regulation, said the booming car leasing business offers new incentives for ordinary people to roll back odometers. "When people find out they exceeded the limit before returning their cars and have to pay a significant amount of money, they turn to odometer clockers. It's cheaper than paying car lease companies."

Burton said Michigan has one of the number of complaints in the nation. His staff checks every out-of-state car's document. Once a problem is found, the owner and the car dealer are informed immediately.

He also credits Michigan car dealer groups, such as the Michigan Automotive Dealers Association and the Michigan Independent Automotive Dealers Association. "We are fortunate to have them outside as our ears and

eyes. They screen out a lot of bad cars that would otherwise lead to car frauds."

Burton said driving a car with a falsified record could put people's lives at risk. People who are unaware of driving doctored cars might drive as if they're still in the best condition, especially on highways.

However, some people still buy doctored cars even though they are aware of it because the price is lower, Burton said. "They should think about the safety of their family. Besides, people could end up losing more money than they pay. Their insurance fees will mount when the history of the car is revealed."

Burton admitted it's impossible to wipe out all car fraud in Michigan. "We are dealing with sophisticated criminals, not to mention most of them are from out of state."

Another common type of car fraud is the sale of cars classified as totally damaged. Unscrupulous rebuilders buy them cheap and repair them cheap. Then, they conceal the bad history and sell them in states where a so-called clean title is available.

Under Michigan law, a salvaged car must pass a state inspection to qualify for a new title which has different colors than a normal one. Without the inspection, salvaged cars are forbidden to drive on highways.

"In Michigan, it's the least likely that consumers would buy a salvaged car without knowing its previous record. You can tell by the different colors of titles," Burton said.

Burton said selecting a licensed dealer is also important. Most car frauds resulted from buying a car from an unlicensed dealer who does not care about his or her reputation.

Martin Andrade, manager of Arrowhead Auto Sales in Three Rivers, said he doesn't know the whole state's situation but has never heard of a single local car fraud case since he got into the business six years ago.

He said cars from auctions are under the best protection because auctions have title computers and expertise. Besides, an experienced car dealer can screen out a clocked car for consumers. "We can tell a bad car by touching, smelling and hearing."

Despite these combined efforts, a prudent consumer is the least likely victim of car fraud, he said.

Michigan has few totaled car fraud cases because of its title law and cooperation between car dealers and the state agency, said Vince Law, president of the Michigan Independent Automotive Dealers Association.

He said it is rare that a doctored car will be sold on retail lots because dealers take precautions and have experience in identifying them. "When you have a license, you have too much at risk. We run our businesses based on reputation."

Law, who owns Law Auto Sales in Wayne, also warned against buying a car from an unlicensed dealer. "They move around and got nothing to lose. It is hard to track them down when something ugly happens."

Other states have over-lenient title laws. For example, in Arkansas a totaled car can qualify for a clean title after repair. Unscrupulous dealers may "wash" salvaged titles in these states and sell them in Michigan with new titles.

However, under the Michigan title law, once a car is rated as salvaged, the car will never have a clean title even if it is well-repaired.

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